

**BOROUGH OF WEST READING
TRAFFIC COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2016**

The Borough of West Reading Traffic Committee met on Wednesday, December 14, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at Borough Hall, with the following persons present: Chair Christopher Lincoln, Public Works Crew Leader Kerry Grassley, Police Chief Stephen Powell and Borough Secretary Cathy Hoffman.

Visitors: Oswald Herbert

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment

Mr. Herbert voices concerns about traffic issues at N. 4th Avenue and Reading Avenue which is primarily due to the detour. Mr. Lincoln said that it would have to be reviewed once the Buttonwood Bridge opens and noted that some of the parking on N. 4th might need to be restricted. Mr. Herbert also spoke about the intersection at Walnut Street at N. 7th Avenue and noted that there are two properties that back onto Walnut that may be encroaching on the Borough right-of-way. Mr. Lincoln said that the Borough Engineer would be attending the January meeting to discuss the intersection at 7th and Walnut due to the various issues that exist there.

Old Business

Parking Study – The parking study is in the budget for 2017 however the kiosk was not included.

ARLE Grant – There was nothing new to report.

Green Light-Go Grant- There is nothing to report at this time.

Additional Security Cameras – Chief Powell reported that \$20,000 has been budgeted in 2017 for two PTZ cameras that would be located at 4th and Penn and 6th and Penn. Discussion ensued regarding the intersections at 8th and Penn and 8th and Reading Avenue. Because the Borough would like to install a camera at 8th and Penn, but the traffic signal is owned by Wyomissing, it was suggested that the signal at 8th and Reading be given to them instead. Mrs. Hoffman will contact Wyomissing's borough manager to discuss this possibility.

Traffic Complaints – Chief Powell stated that there have been no new complaints.

New Business

N. 7th and Reading Traffic – There has been an issue with vehicles stopping in front of Gage Personnel in a no parking area. Gage has agreed to address the problem with signs inside their building as well as have personnel on site to inform drivers that they must use the other parking areas. It was decided that the existing signage at that location should be changed to read 'no stopping, standing or parking' however the ordinance will most likely need to be amended to allow this change. It was also suggested that the ordinance could be amended to increase the fine amount however this will not be done for now. The public works department will order the necessary signs.

Penn Street Bridge Pedestrian Crosswalk – Mrs. Hoffman reported that complaints have been received as a result of the sidewalk on the south side of the bridge being closed in preparation for the bridge repairs. The crosswalk at "Ramp I" (westbound turn at the end of the bridge) is particularly dangerous because of

the speed of the vehicles. Mrs. Hoffman said that she had contacted the contractor for the bridge for assistance, who in turn forwarded the request to PennDOT. PennDOT has instructed JD Eckman to install a 'pedestrian crossing ahead' sign which will include a yellow flashing light.

Traffic Committee Enabling Ordinance – Mrs. Hoffman prepared a draft which required some changes. Mr. Lincoln asked to have the Traffic and Infrastructure Committees combined into one ordinance.

Enforcement of Private Lots – Chief Powell indicated that the District Justice has informed the Borough that the Parking Enforcement Officer may not enforce private parking lots. Chief Powell will speak with the Borough Solicitor to see if this can be changed by amending the ordinance.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Cathy Hoffman
Borough Secretary