

**BOROUGH OF WEST READING
TRAFFIC COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8, 2017**

The Borough of West Reading Traffic Committee met on Wednesday, March 8, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. at Borough Hall, with the following persons present: Chairman Christopher Lincoln, Public Works Director Dean Murray, Police Chief Stephen Powell, Mayor Valentine Rodriguez, Jr., Council Member Nicholas Imbesi, Borough Manager Cathy Hoffman and Assistant to the Manager Cynthia Madeira.

Visitors: None

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 p.m.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made to approve the Traffic Committee minutes of Wednesday, February 8, 2017 by Mr. Imbesi and seconded by Mayor Rodriguez. Motion carried 5-0.

Old Business

Parking Study – There was nothing new to report. Mr. Lincoln requested a copy of this study be provided to Mr. Imbesi for review and further discussion during the next Traffic Committee meeting.

Chief Powell stated he attended a meeting with the owners of Vanity Fair Campus who agreed to allow the use of their parking lots during West Reading festivals with advance notice.

ARLE Grant – There was nothing new to report.

Green Light-Go Grant – There was nothing new to report. PennDOT anticipates late spring for grant notification.

8th & Penn Traffic Signal Maintenance Responsibility – The Borough of Wyomissing discussed our request to change maintenance responsibility of 8th Avenue and Penn Avenue traffic signal with 8th Avenue and Reading Avenue for camera installation. The committee did not agree with our request due to possible interconnection of the signals. However they are agreeable to camera placement at Penn Avenue with proper procedures followed.

Suggestions were made for Mr. Lincoln to attend Wyomissing Borough meeting to discuss further. Chief Powell inquired as to the cost to maintain a traffic signal to potentially remove this responsibility from Wyomissing Borough.

7th & Walnut Intersection – Mr. Murray will identify the pins at this intersection and provide this information to Tom Unger to discuss at the next meeting.

Detour Signage for Miller Center Events – To date RACC has not provided additional information to review their request for additional directional signage during the Penn Street Bridge detour.

New Business

Alley Parking between Franklin Street & Wayne Avenue – Complaints have been received from residents of this area regarding the trash truck creating ruts in their yards along this alleyway. Ordinance 1052 allows placement of signs within the alley parallel to South Seventh Avenue between Franklin Street and Wayne

Avenue to prohibit parking on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday mornings from 6:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Mr. Murray will place signs on both sides of this alley in an effort to remediate the issue. Also, the Code Enforcement Department will address enforcement of trimming the hedges that encroach upon the alley.

N. 6th Avenue Permit Parking – Chief Powell reported a complaint he received from William H. Diller Jewelers regarding the new permit parking being a detriment to his business. The two-hour parking limit at times is not sufficient for his customers.

A discussion ensued on possibly converting the parking permits to a barcoded system to ensure expired/invalid-parking permits are not in use. Chief Powell will check the inventory of remaining permits in stock.

Penn Avenue Enforcement of 2-hour Handicap Parking – A complaint was received regarding a handicap space within the 400 block of Penn Avenue being assigned to a resident and the enforcement of the 2-hour limit. The complainant was informed because a resident requested the space; the 2-hour limit will not be enforced.

The removal of a handicap space located within the 700 block of Penn Avenue in front of the previous occupant, Commonwealth Auto was discussed. A recommendation to Council for removal of this handicap space made by Mr. Imbesi and seconded by Mayor Rodriguez. Motion carried 5-0.

Penn Avenue Street Sweeping – Mr. Murray attended a Main Street meeting to further discuss the possibility of a street sweeping schedule on Penn Avenue and their suggestions on timing. The general consensus is early Monday mornings; prior to West Reading Pharmacy's opening at 8:00 a.m. Mr. Murray will review the street sweeping schedule for availability.

Intersection of Grape Street & 4th Avenue – Chief Powell reported a request from the Principal of West Reading Elementary to install a crosswalk crossing Grape Street due to a child recently running into the side of a vehicle. Mr. Lincoln suggested also placement of a "Watch for Children" sign. Mr. Murray will install a piano-key style crosswalk and review the area for sign placement.

Crossing Guard Ordinance – Chief Powell inquired with the Wyomissing School District as to a crossing guard agreement. They also were unable to locate such an agreement and suggested the creation of a new agreement. Mayor Rodriguez requested the consideration of two options, either a resolution by the school district or ordinance by the borough. Mrs. Hoffman will provide the committee members with this section of the Borough Code to discuss at next month's meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Madeira
Assistant to the Manager