

**BOROUGH OF WEST READING
TRAFFIC & INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE**

JUNE 12, 2019

The Borough of West Reading Traffic & Infrastructure Committee met on Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Borough Hall, with the following persons present: Chairman Christopher Lincoln; Police Chief Stephen Powell; Public Works Director Dean Murray; Mayor Andrew Kearney; Main Street Manager Mark Ratcliffe; Borough Manager Cathy Hoffman and Assistant Borough Secretary Cynthia Madeira.

Visitors: Dale Miller, Resident
Harry O'Neill, Business Owner

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

Public Comment

Dale Miller reiterated a previous complaint regarding school bus use of Sunset Road and for safety reasons, requested that the street be marked with lines to delineate the travel lane. Options such as reversing the one-way flow of traffic to reduce the number of vehicles using this roadway and the creation of bicycle lanes that would connect the trail from the recreation area to the bike trail were discussed.

Harry O'Neill expressed his interest to lease 301 Penn Avenue for a kitchen design center and inquired as to options for alternate egress from this parking lot. Due to the narrow alley exiting onto Third Avenue and the inability to turn left from Third Avenue onto Penn Avenue, Mr. O'Neill inquired as to the possible addition of a center turning lane along Penn Avenue. This would allow eastbound vehicles to exit the parking lot onto Penn Avenue by merging from a center lane. It was noted that in lieu of directing vehicles toward Fourth Avenue to safely access eastbound Penn Avenue, considerations to alter this state roadway would require a traffic engineer to perform a study that would be submitted to PennDOT for review.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made to approve the Traffic and Infrastructure Committee minutes of Wednesday, May 8, 2019 by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mayor Kearney. **Motion carried.**

Old Business

Penn Avenue Parking – Mark Ratcliffe noted ongoing discussions with the owner of the shopping center parking lot due to recent demands from a shopping center business, which currently infers a reduction to the number of spaces available for paid parking from 100 to 50 spaces. Cost effectiveness was discussed to enforce parking of 50 spaces, including the anticipated delivery date of June 18th of two kiosks. An additional meeting with the owner of the parking lot is scheduled tomorrow with Mr. Ratcliffe and Chief Powell, the outcome of this meeting will be discussed with Council next week and it was suggested to delay the delivery of the kiosks at this time.

Mark Ratcliffe departed the meeting at 6:31 p.m.

Green Light-Go Grant – Telco is nearing completion of the Penn Avenue traffic signal improvements, it was noted that the new reflective plates are a vast improvement.

Penn Avenue Infrastructure – A schedule has not yet been set to paint the poles along the 200 block of Penn Avenue. Mr. Murray noted that six trashcans were refurbished this past month with two additional cans currently in the garage. Mr. Lincoln inquired as to progress of the Penn Avenue parking stall line layout should PennDOT decide to repave this roadway this year. Mr. Murray will inquire with the engineer as to the status of this project.

Route 422 West Shore Bypass Project – Mr. Lincoln noted his attendance to a recent meeting where preliminary design phase discussions surrounded pedestrians and bike trails. Also, signal maintenance for the proposed diverging diamond interchange and flashing beacons at the three pedestrian ramp crossings will be the responsibility of the municipality.

Handicap Parking Space Policy – Committee members discussed placement of a handicapped parking space within the vicinity of 6th and Penn Avenues. For safety purposes it may be best to locate one in the area of the drug store, Mr. Murray will review the area to discuss at a later date.

The Parking Enforcement Officer reported that there are a total of 2,353 on-street parking spaces within the Borough. A review of the per block handicap space requirements, as provided by the solicitor is needed.

Parking in Alleys – Review of alley widths and conditions are needed to identify where parking should be restricted. Mr. Murray will prepare recommendations.

New Business

In-Street Pedestrian Crossing Signs – Mr. Lincoln noted a request to place free-standing pedestrian crossing signs at the intersection of 5th and Spruce Streets due to the reduced line of sight. Chief Powell noted a reduced inventory of signs and will contact PennDOT to obtain additional signs to be placed at various high pedestrian traffic intersections throughout the Borough.

Server/Workstation Hardware – A quote from ImagEze was reviewed to replace a server and 13 desktop workstations due to the pending conclusion of support for Windows 7 devices on December 31, 2019. Purchase and lease options to fund the unbudgeted cost of \$36,140 were discussed. Clarification of the mailbox migration is needed for Council member accounts as well as Microsoft licensing. Options for licensing are either a \$12.50 per month, per user charge or a purchase price of \$260 per license. It was suggested that the Finance Committee review funding options. Chief Powell stated he would forgo the purchase of a new police vehicle if necessary.

Motion made to recommend to Council to move forward with the purchase of 13 computers and server by Chief Powell and seconded by Mrs. Hoffman. **Motion carried.**

Adjournment

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:01 p.m. by Mayor Kearney and seconded by Mr. Murray. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Madeira
Assistant Borough Secretary