

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

The Borough of West Reading Traffic Committee met on Wednesday, February 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., Borough Manager Cathy Hoffman and Assistant to the Manager Cynthia Madeira.

Visitors: Oswald Herbert, Resident

The meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

Public Comment

Mr. Herbert inquired as to previous parking regulations being restored following the lifting of Buttonwood Street Bridge Detour. Mr. Herbert suggested allowing parking on the west side of North Fourth Avenue and possibly delineating the center line to allow safer navigation of this busy, narrow roadway. Mr. Lincoln stated the previous parking regulations will be resumed following the bridge opening and the committee can review potential changes at a later date.

Old Business

Parking Study – There was nothing new to report.

ARLE Grant – There was nothing new to report.

Green Light-Go Grant – There was nothing new to report.

8th & Penn Traffic Signal Maintenance Responsibility – Mrs. Hoffman reported she had the opportunity to contact a representative of the Borough of Wyomissing and they have placed this item on their agenda for their next meeting on February 21, 2017.

Parking Violations – N. 7th Avenue – Mr. Murray stated new signs have been posted to this area and this seems to have eliminated a number of parking violations.

Parking Enforcement – Chief Powell reported a copy of our ordinance was provided to the District Justice allowing the Parking Enforcement Officer to resume his normal duties.

Penn Street Bridge Pedestrian Crosswalk – Mr. Murray reported J.D. Eckman has installed signage and painted the crosswalk, however new ADA ramps will only be installed at the bridge and not at the other areas of the clover leaf. Also, J.D. Eckman is planning to open the Southside walkway and close the Northside next week, which should alleviate some pedestrian issues.

7th & Walnut Intersection – Mr. Murray located a map of this intersection created by Great Valley Consultants. Mr. Lincoln requested Public Works to locate the noted PK nails to delineate the 20' wide Walnut Alley. Also, it was suggested to remove an area of macadam located alongside Dr. Kimball's building to create an island with possible landscaping to locate a stop sign and create a separation of street to parking area. Mrs. Hoffman suggested widening the turning radius from North Seventh Avenue onto Walnut Street by possibly removing a portion of curbing. Mrs. Hoffman will discuss this item with Tom Unger of Systems Design Engineering and possibly request his attendance to next month's meeting.

New Business

Penn Street Bridge – Chief Powell reported that during his attendance at this meeting earlier today RACC requested placement of temporary detour signs for the Miller Center. The signs would potentially be placed on Reading Avenue, Delaney Circle and Buttonwood Street. Mrs. Hoffman will request additional information and request that they attend the next Council meeting to obtain approval. Chief Powell and Mayor Rodriguez will request enforcement funding to offset expenses associated with the bridge improvement projects. Chief Powell also reported the Buttonwood Street Bridge may reopen as early due to the warm winter weather. The Borough will be notified two weeks prior their planned opening date.

Crossing Guard Ordinance – The Mayor spoke about crossing guard regulations in the Borough Code and requested that a copy of the agreement with the school district be located.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made to approve the Traffic Committee minutes of Wednesday, January 11, 2017 by Mr. Murray and seconded by Mr. Powell. Motion carried 4-0.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cynthia Madeira
Assistant to the Manager