

**BOROUGH OF WEST READING  
TRAFFIC COMMITTEE  
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 10, 2018**

The Borough of West Reading Traffic Committee met on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. at Borough Hall, with the following persons present: Chairman Christopher Lincoln; Council Member Nicholas Imbesi, Nicholas Gardecki; Police Chief Stephen Powell; Mayor Andrew Kearney; Public Works Director Dean Murray; Engineer Thomas Unger and Craig Momose; Borough Manager Cathy Hoffman and Assistant to the Manager Cynthia Madeira.

Visitors:           Mark Ratcliffe, Main Street Manager  
                  Christin Kelley, Resident  
                  James T. Rogers, Resident  
                  Philip Wert, Resident  
                  John Woodward, Property/Business Owner

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Rogers inquired as to results of the Walker Parking Consultants updated study; Mr. Lincoln noted this item is on the agenda for this evening. Mr. Rogers also noted an article within the Reading Eagle regarding Robesonia allowing handicap parking to be designated to a particular resident.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion made to approve the Traffic Committee minutes of Wednesday, November 8, 2017 by Mr. Imbesi and seconded by Chief Powell. Motion carried.

**Old Business**

**Parkview Road Bridge** – Mr. Unger provided a concept plan map of the bridge area to inquire with the Committee as to options for the two dead ends that would be created on Parkview Road when the existing bridge is closed. The Committee agreed to allow the North side to remain open for emergency vehicle use only. The Committee also agreed that a portion of the macadam roadway should be removed to delineate park space. Safety barrier options were discussed along with a possibility to create a stone/paver parking area for parkland use. Mrs. Hoffman will communicate with the City of Reading to discern their intentions for the South side of Parkview Road.

Mr. Murray joined the meeting at 6:44 p.m. Mr. Woodward joined the meeting at 6:47 p.m.

**7<sup>th</sup> & Walnut Intersection** – The committee requested a cost estimate for installation of mountable curbing adjacent to 655 Walnut Street. Mrs. Hoffman and Mr. Unger will arrange an onsite meeting with Mr. Gage to discuss revisions to the curb line to increase the turning radius of this intersection.

Mr. Unger and Mr. Momose departed the meeting at 6:53 p.m.

**Green Light-Go Grant** – Mr. Lincoln suggested coordination with the Borough of Wyomissing and PennDOT for potential cost savings.

**8<sup>th</sup> & Penn Traffic Signal Maintenance Responsibility** – There was nothing new to report.

Mayor Kearney joined the meeting at 6:58 p.m.

**Parking Study** – Mr. Lincoln noted highlights from the updated Walker Parking Consultants study, which indicated the municipal lot located on Franklin Street and the 4<sup>th</sup> through 7<sup>th</sup> Penn Avenue public parking spaces are utilized in excess of 80% during weekdays and Saturday. The report indicated there are approximately 900 privately owned parking lot spaces located within the 12-block study area that were utilized less than 50%. Similar to the 2015 study, the updated study recommends the Borough consider opportunities to increase public parking supply through shared parking

agreements with private parking lot owners. Mrs. Hoffman will discuss lease agreement options with the Solicitor and Mr. Ratcliffe will approach private parking lot owners to ascertain their interest.

Additional options discussed by the Committee were:

- Restriping Penn Avenue spaces to allow an additional parking space for compact cars;
- Valet parking, however a lack of interest has been indicated by business owners to monetarily supporting this service;
- Extension of parking enforcement hours. The Committee reviewed their prior recommendation to Council to extend the two-hour parking enforcement along Penn Avenue and increase the Franklin Street municipal lot enforcement to four-hours Monday through Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Motion made to recommend Council's approval to extend parking enforcement hours an additional thirty hours per week to allow enforcement Monday through Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. by Mr. Imbesi and seconded by Mr. Murray. Motion carried.

Mr. Lincoln will provide the Committee with a copy of the Parking Meter Study to discuss at a later date.

### **New Business**

New business was tabled until next month.

### **Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. by Mr. Imbesi and seconded by Mr. Murray. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cynthia Madeira  
Assistant to the Manager