

Board of Selectmen – November 30, 2009

Present: Searle, Babson, Mills, Dugan, Tsagaris

Also present: Larsen, Ketchen, Connolly, Robinson

Call to order: Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm.

Citizen Speak: None.

Minutes: November 10, 16, 23

Business:

A. Executive Director's Update:

- The Board voted to appoint Lesley Robertson and Trina Foster to serve as members of the Youth Commission for terms to expire June 30, 2013.
- Mr. Larsen updated the Board on the progress of the various bridge projects. The completion date for the Route 9/16 bridge is June 2010. The Rockland Street Bridge will be put out to bid in July 2010. The second public hearing relating to the reconstruction of the Cedar Street Bridge will be held at Town Hall on December 16 at 7:00 pm.
- At the request of the Director of the Health Department, the Board voted to approve the exemption of Susan Mineo in accordance with Section 20B of Chapter 266A of the General Laws and to authorize the Chairman to sign the disclosure of financial interest form as prescribed by the Commonwealth.

B. Public Hearing Traffic Regulation Amendments – 7:15

Thomas Road – Lt. Pilecki and Chief Cunningham joined the Board. Lt. Pilecki described the proposal to eliminate parking on the north side of Thomas Road in order to ensure that emergency vehicles could access Thomas Road and Perrin Park. The roadway is not wide enough to allow for parking on both sides and maintain access for emergency vehicles. The elimination of parking on the north side is preferred for site circulation and parking reasons. Ms. Searle invited comments from the public.

- Nancy Calligan – 11 Thomas Road – spoke in support and compared number of signs on similar streets in Wellesley that have parking restrictions. She agrees that something needs to be done.
- Todd Bida – 22 Thomas Road – spoke against the proposal pointing out that there were physical obstacles to prevent walking along the south side of Thomas Road. Ms. Babson asked about seasonal parking restrictions. Lt. Pilecki explained that there could be a problem anytime and not just when the fields are being used for youth sports and the year round restriction is less confusing for everyone.

The Board voted to amend Schedule I - No Parking of the Parking Regulations by adding Thomas Road, North Side, from Weston Road to its terminus and Thomas Road, South Side, from Weston Road to a point 25 west of Weston Road.

Washington Street – West of Rice Street – Mr. Larsen explained concerns of residents on Washington Street west of Rice Street with their ability to exit their driveways. This has become more of a problem with the increased use of these parking spaces by Wellesley High School students. The proposal is to remove 6 parking spaces on Washington Street west of Rice Street. Ms. Babson expressed interest in possibly extending the no parking restriction further west to cover the residences and not just the driveways. Ms. Searle invited comments from the public.

- Jim Meade – 428 Washington Street – supported removing the spaces near the driveways but was concerned with potentially creating a second travel lane near Rice Street if all the parking spaces were removed.
- Mark Charney – 436 Washington Street – Thanked the Board for their quick action, supported the extension proposed by Ms. Babson, and asked that cars be prohibited from traveling in two lanes west of Rice Street.

Mr. Mills asked about the possibility of a dedicated right turn lane as suggested by Mr. Meade. Chief Cunningham suggested we ask the Town's traffic consultant, BETA Group. Ken Ho, from BETA Group, doesn't believe that the volume of cars turning right on Rice Street would support the addition of a dedicated right turn lane.

Ms. Tsagaris asked for the total number of spaces that would be removed on the section of Washington Street with this proposal. Parking would be prohibited in 11 spaces and 10 spaces converted to 2 hour parking. Ms. Tsagaris expressed concern with the public notification of the conversion of all day parking spaces to two hour parking. Even with the loss of parking spaces, Ms. Searle and Ms. Babson believe that there will still be adequate spaces for student parking

The Board voted to amend Schedule I - No Parking of the Parking Regulations by adding Washington Street, South Side, from Rice Street to a point 325 feet west. The Board voted to amend Schedule I - No Parking of the Parking Regulations by adding Washington Street, South Side, from tennis court driveway to a point 40 feet west.

The Board voted (Tsagaris opposed) to amend Schedule I – 2 Hour Parking of the Parking Regulations by adding Washington Street, South Side, from Rice Street to a point 345 feet east.

#### Washington Street – Columbia Street

Mr. Larsen presented the proposal to eliminate two parking spaces from the north side of Washington Street west of Columbia Street. The removal of these spaces was agreed to as part of the PSI decision related to 27 Washington Street.

- Mary Bowers – 12 Columbia Street – supports this proposal to remove 2 parking spaces.
- Sheila Tucker – 31 Ledyard Street – inquired whether the proposed removal of 2 parking spaces on Washington Street at Ledyard was being considered. It is similar to the problems that exist on Columbia Street.
- Mary Kane – 11 Ledyard – requested that the Board officially address the removal of 2 parking spaces east of Ledyard Street now that the 27 Washington Street project is moving forward.

The Board voted to amend Schedule I - No Parking of the Parking Regulations by adding Washington Street, North Side, from Columbia Street to a point 60 feet west. Ms. Searle closed the Public Hearing at 8:20 pm.

### C. CVS Project of Significant Impact

- Appearing before the Board were Messrs. Brian Levey, representing CVS Pharmacy; A.J. Barbato, representing Gershman Brown Crowley, Inc.; Patrick Dunford of VHB, Inc.; and Kien Ho of BETA Group.
- Mr. Dunford provided an update on progress since they last met with the Selectmen.
- Based on meeting with Mass Highway they have eliminated the right turn exit on the eastern edge of the parcel. A right turn lane was added to the signalized entrance/exit.
- Mr. Dunford discussed short term and long term improvements to the Oak Street/Route 9 intersection. Short term improvements include creating communication with the Overbrook Drive/Route 9 signal.
- Mr. Dunford identified locations where vehicle counts were performed as well as the results of a study on vehicles cutting through the area.
- Mr. Dunford reported on traffic volumes recorded at similar CVS locations in Framingham and Natick.
- Mr. Ho agreed with trip generation and trip distribution used by the proponent for their analysis.
- Mr. Ho pointed to Route 9 congestion as the key cause of cut through problems in the area and the affect of 112 additional trips that would be forced to use Weston Road if Overbrook Drive wasn't fully signalized.
- Mr. Ho made a few comments on parking, site circulation, and the connection between this parcel and 978 Worcester Street.
- Mr. Mills inquired about the possibility of a dedicated right turn lane into the proposed store. Mr. Dunford pointed to physical constraints and not enough vehicular use to request a dedicated lane

Ms. Searle asked for comments/questions from the public

- Andrew Schneider, 20 Beechwood Road, expressed concern about the traffic study, locations chosen for traffic counts, site circulation, and the effect of solar glare on Route 9 drivers.
- Marjorie Fallon, 14 Beechwood Road, questioned trip distribution, supports an additional u-turn lane, and limiting vehicles on Beechwood Road during peak times.
- James Palacino, 21 Beechwood Road, expressed concern about impact of additional cut-through traffic.
- Dave Waisel, 15 Beechwood Road, supports combining driveways with 978 Worcester Street, controlling speed and eliminating cut-through traffic. Mr. Waisel presented a list of requests to the Board.
- Moira Lown, 37 Beechwood Road, expressed concern with vehicle speed study

Ms. Searle thanked the residents for their input and stated that the Board would not be making any decisions tonight.

#### D. Kimlo Road Construction Site

Ms. Searle provided an update on the Kimlo Road construction site since the equipment accident on October 6, 2009. Work has been on hold voluntarily since the accident. The retaining walls were permitted before the adoption of the new retaining wall bylaw. The Building Inspector, OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration), MBTA, and Department of Public Safety have looked into this accident. The Town has suggested that the property owner install jersey barriers on the edge of the road for public safety especially during this winter.

Mr. Robinson spoke to the limitations on what the Town regulates on private property. Mr. Robinson updated the Board on his discussions with OSHA and the MBTA. OSHA has communicated safety recommendations with the property owner and the employer of the hoisting licensee.

The Town is taking the following steps:

- Requesting all public records from OSHA to the property owner.
- Requesting that the MBTA send out engineers to recommend safety improvements for the trains, the platforms, and passengers.

Mr. Robinson explained the eminent domain process. Ms. Searle stated that no decision has been made relating to an eminent domain taking and this property.

Ms. Searle asked for comments from residents:

- Justina Sandford, 29 Kimlo Road, supports the installation of jersey barriers and expressed concern about the safety of train passengers.
- Lois Young, 22 Kimlo Road, supports the installation of jersey barriers and doesn't want vehicles in her driveway.
- Richard Hillman, 26 Kimlo Road, supports the installation of jersey barriers and felt that this project was unsafe.

#### E. Old/New Business

*Wellesley High School* – Ms. Babson reported 75% of the foundation has been completed and that pile driving began last week. The actual driving of the piles doesn't begin until the end of the school day to avoid disturbing the students.

*Senior Center* – Ms. Tsagaris reported that they will be reviewing responses to surveys they received for surrounding senior centers regarding parking, bus use, and public transportation.

*27 Washington Street* – No Update

*DCR Bridge* – No Update

*Advisory Committee – No Update*

At 10:45 p.m., the Board was polled all “yes” to enter Executive Session for the purpose of discussing the acquisition of real property.