



Town of Hudson

Internal Traffic Committee

78 Main Street, Hudson, MA 01749
Tel: (978) 562-9963 Fax: (978) 568-9641

Minutes of January 27, 2023

A meeting of the Town of Hudson's Internal Traffic Committee (ITC) was held on January 27, 2023, fully in person in the 2nd-floor conference room of Town Hall. Jeff Wood convened the meeting at 10:00 AM.

The following ITC voting members were in attendance:

Jeff Wood, Building Commissioner (Chair)
Richard DiPersio, Police Chief
Bryan Johannes, Fire Chief
Eric Ryder, Director of Public Works

The following non-voting ITC members /guests were in attendance:

Shawn Sadowski, Select Board Member
Steven Santos, Director of Parks and Recreation

Not in attendance:

Kristina Johnson, AICP, Director of Planning and Community Development

Discussion about Centennial Beach Parking

Mr. Ryder opened the discussion by stating that the residents reached out to Recreation Department, DPW, Police, Comm. Dev., etc. regarding the parking ban change to a 475' radius (per by-law), requesting it be extended, and additional signage being added. Residents are asking to expand and Mr. Ryder wanted to address the concerns, as the board agreed that 475' was the final expansion number. At the ITC July meeting residents spoke about the size of the expansion (in meeting minutes from July). The by-law establishes a limit of 475' and if they continue to expand additional residents will want further expansion. Jeff Wood asked for further comments or questions.

- Engine breaking sign issue raised by a resident – suggested to take that up after the beach.
- Carolyn Lanigan – Fort Meadow Drive – looking for additional signage near her house to prohibit parking near her property by expanding the radius. Parking for the beach is causing blockage of her mailbox, cars on both sides of the street limiting residents' ability to parking on street, and additional cars are causing safety issues for children. She advised the board that Marlboro has parking restrictions around their beach so no parking is allowed in neighboring streets. Chief Johannes reiterated to Mrs. Lanigan that the issue is that if they extended and add a sign to alleviate her issue that it will continue to be an issue for the next neighbor, then the next neighbor, and there will be no end. The 475' is what the current by-laws provide, this was discussed and agreed upon by

residents and the board, and the by-laws would have to be changed in order to extend the parking restrictions.

- Steven Santos, Director of Parks and Recreation – noted to Mrs. Lanigan that all residents within 500' were notified of the prior meetings, hence her not being notified of prior meetings, but that there were multiple postings of the same. Mr. Santos informed Mrs. Lanigan as well that Marlboro's summer parking restrictions (that she referenced) prohibit ALL parking in the summer, including residents and resident's guests – so that Mrs. Lanigan was aware. Mr. Santos advised that there are approximately 100 parking spots at the beach now. Mr. Wood, Chief Johannes, and Chief DiPersio assured Mrs. Lanigan, that while difficult, it's not illegal for anyone to park on a public roadway that doesn't have restrictions, and that emergency vehicles are able to access the roadway. If at any point she is concerned about loitering or menacing vehicles, or occupants thereof, Mrs. Lanigan was advised to notify HPD by Chief DiPersio.
- Mary Wallace – Fort Meadow Drive – suggests that only Hudson residents would be allowed to access the beach, as many surrounding towns have done. Mrs. Wallace inquired about additional parking needed downtown and if a parking garage would be added. The board informed Mrs. Wallace that there will be an updated parking study completed soon, and the Select Board will decide what comes from that.
- Mr. Santos asked about restrictions or regulations about parking in front of mailboxes or proximity to parking near driveways. Chief DiPersio stated there were regulations about blocking driveways, but was unsure about the mailboxes.

Mr. Wood made a motion to keep current regulations for parking in place, seconded by Mr. Ryder. 4-0-0. Unanimous.

Approval of Meeting Minutes for 7/29/2022, 10/27/2022, 11/16/2022 meetings

Mr. Ryder seconded by Chief Johannes moved to approve meeting minutes from July 29, 2022, October 27, 2022, and November 16, 2022. 4-0-0. Unanimous.

Off Agenda Matters

Michael Volk – Otsego Drive – Raised an issue about engine braking on Reed Road. Concerned that residents were not allowed to speak on the issue at meetings. Stated that ITC should be addressing the issue, not Select Board, but regardless that he felt residents were not properly notified. Mr. Ryder and Mr. Wood advised Mr. Volk that the agendas were all publicly posted, additionally, meeting minutes were also posted for the public. The issue of engine braking and enforcement thereof was addressed by Chief DiPersio and Director of Planning and Community Development, Kristina Johnson, neighboring towns were surveyed, and that was all brought to the Select Board. Mr. Volk explained to the board that the noise issue has been going on for over a year.

James Carvalho, Jr. – Autumn Drive – Provided a copy of the citizen's petition submitted to the Planning Department the day prior to see if the ITC could support it. Chief DiPersio stated that he would not be supporting it. Chief DiPersio advised Mr. Carvalho stated that

the issue of enforcement is infeasible. Mr. Carvalho was advised to contact Ms. Johnson to request that the discussion of this matter be added to the agenda. There was further debate by Mr. Carvalho, Chief DiPersio, Chief Johannes, and Mr. Wood regarding the enforcement of the by-law if passed. Mr. Volk added to the matter at which point Mr. Wood reiterated that the matter would be added to an agenda and further discussed at that time if Ms. Johnson was contacted.

Adjournment

Chairman Wood seconded by Mr. Ryder moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:46 AM. 4-0-0.
Unanimous