

Traffic Commission Meeting  
October 15, 2009

Meeting was held at the Traffic & Parking Office, 133 Holland St

Attendance: George Manzelli, Thomas Graney, James Polito, Stan Koty  
Staff: Laura Accaputo, Terence Smith, James Kotzuba, Lawrence Murphy  
Other: Terry Brennan

Meeting was called to order @ 6:10pm

**Item #1** – Minutes from September 17, 2009 Traffic Commission Meeting accepted unanimously

Chairman Koty asked Mr. Brennan if he was at the meeting to discuss any of the agenda items. Mr. Brennan stated that he wished to comment on the fines charged by the City of Somerville for parking violations. Chairman Koty suspended the rules and allowed Mr. Brennan the opportunity to speak. Mr. Brennan stated that he is a resident of Florida and had submitted a letter to Somerville Voices with regards to Somerville's parking fines. He stated that he felt that fines should not be used as a source of revenue but rather as a way to control parking. He feels that the dollar amount of these fines is beyond the level of fairness and that the amount of the fine should be relative to the seriousness of the offense. He believes revenue should be generated through taxation. He also believes that the aggressive enforcement of parking laws is not good for the image of the city. He also mentioned that James Kotzuba, Acting Director of Traffic & Parking along with the staff, parking control officers, and magistrate have been very helpful to him in addressing his concerns. Chairman Koty then explained that the City of Somerville went to great lengths to commiserate the fees with the offense and that there has been a re-prioritization of ticketing and fee amounts. He also explained that the city no longer tows for obstructing street sweeping violations.

**Item #2** – Request for Handicapped Parking

**22 Mt. Pleasant St** (space to be placed in front of 15 Mt Pleasant St)

**49 Heath St**

**8 Rhode Island Av** (6 month trial period, 16ft space)

**217 Summer St**

Motion to **Approve** (all) made by Thomas Graney, 2<sup>nd</sup> George Manzelli, unanimous

**Item #3** – Request for Fire Lane

**Craigie Ter** – south side, for a distance of 65ft westerly

Motion to **Table** made by James Polito, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thomas Graney, unanimous

**Item #4** – Tabled Item

Request for Fire Lane

**Forster St** – north side, opposite Tennyson St, 24 ft west from the fire hydrant zone, for a total restriction of 34 ft west from the hydrant

Motion to **Approve** made by James Polito, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thomas Graney, unanimous

Meeting adjourned @ 6:25pm