

HAMDEN BOARD OF TRAFFIC AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF
MAY 15, 2013

Attending: Raeann Curtis, Michael Iezzi, Robert LaTorraca, Gerald Migliaro, Mitchell Strickland, Police Chief Wydra, Deputy Chief Cappiello

Absent: Town Attorney Sue Gruen

Call to Order – The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

Approval of Minutes

Chairman Iezzi entertained a motion to approve the minutes of April 10, 2013. Mr. LaTorraca motioned to approve the minutes of April 10, 2013, seconded by Mr. Strickland. *The motion carried unanimously.*

Public Comments on Agenda Items

Chairman Iezzi advised the public that this is the opportunity for those present to make comments on agenda items. Chairman Iezzi stated that there has been a lot of thought and having discussions throughout the meetings and he has done considerable research on this with the Mayor, the Town Attorney and other Boards and Commissions and Council members and a decision has to be made at this time. Since there is a liaison to the Traffic Calming Committee and since all the information posted is the same information the Commission is provided with all comments need to be held during the Public Comments on Agenda Items section of the agenda. If there is an item the public feels they need further discussion on and the Commission doesn't take action on it that could be tabled and brought fourth at another meeting. What I have just stated is the standard procedure for all meetings and that this Commission has been very liberal with time and that this is an issue and the Commission can not debate issues outside of the Public Comments on the agenda items and it's not even a debate for people to discuss it, that is the resolution of this item. At this point if there is anyone present who would like to make comments on the agenda items you may do so now.

Ms. Cheryl Atkinson, 59 First St. – Ms. Atkinson is here to address her request for a Handicapped parking sign in front of her residence. Ms. Atkinson has provided a completed Application for Handicapped Parking Space (given to the Commission) and has explained her reasons for the sign.

Mr. Gustav Spohn, 4032 Whitney Ave. – Mr. Spohn asked when the Public Comment period has to be held can it be held at the end of the meeting?

Chairman Iezzi stated that the Public Comment period is held as the third item on the agenda.

Mr. Spohn, as a matter of course at every meeting it will be the third item, the first...

Chairman Iezzi stated the agenda procedure is Calling the meeting to order, approval of minutes then Public Comments on Agenda Items.

Mr. Spohn, is there any flexibility in terms of when you have, I can understand what you are saying.

Chairman Iezzi, I hear where you are coming from and you know what I think that is something I would like to consider and maybe next meeting I'll render another decision. I hear what you are saying, however we have action items that are on this agenda and the action items that are taken and you can put your input letter and maybe if in fact the Commissioners feels that yes you have a good point than maybe we can table something to the next meeting so at least it gives an opportunity to have interaction but not within the meeting like you are expressing after then if it is an item we want to readdress then we can readdress it or just let it stand. I do want to address this with Attorney Gruen so I will table this discussion I just had regarding Public Comments to where I want to place it on the agenda for the next regularly scheduled meeting. I will reconsider and make a final decision at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

A member of the public present who did not identify herself but the Chairman called her Sarah, she responded hi and said 4032 thanked him for having that much energy and time for that. Chairman Iezzi thanked her and noted that the philosophy here is to work together so we can all make this happen for the right reasons.

Sarah, and I think that (speaking too low to be understood) but partially hearing - a chance to hear and discuss and not just for the advanced material but looking at all the information provided here during the meetings.

Department Report

- a. Review of department activity – Chief Wydra reported that the work on the Mather St. project has started and that Engineering and Public works are working together. Curb lines and painting should be completed by the end of May. Treadwell St. will start soon. It just wasn't possible to do two projects of that size at one time. Chief Wydra noted that there are a number of signs that were knocked down during the storm and the snow and some that are faded and they are working on replacing them. There are still funds they are waiting for from FEMA for storm damage. Commission Migliaro thanked Chief Wydra for the additional signs on Pine Rock and noted they are working.
- b. Review of Site Plans – none at this time.

Old Business

- a. Request for help with speeding cars, truck traffic and noise, Davis Street – Chief Wydra advised the Commission that the speed compliance device is still in place. The information recorded indicates no changes required and that regular speed enforcement continues.
- b. 2384 Whitney Ave. – Expansion & Outdoor Café – any follow up information – at this time Chief Wydra didn't have any information, it was noted that construction has started and Chief Wydra is still concerned about the parking. Chairman Iezzi requested this item be placed on the June 12, 2013 agenda. There are questions and answers that Chairman Iezzi would like to review with Planning and Zoning.

New Business

- a. Freddie Fixer Parade – Mr. Maurice Smith addressed the Commission advising them that the route of the Parade is the one always used and that there are no deviations. The streets of Hamden that are used is mostly for staging for approximately 1 ½ hours. Once the Parade gets under way the area empties. He will be requesting the regular number of police for safety and some minimal directing traffic on Dixwell Ave. Chief Wydra recommends the approval of this request. Ms. Curtis motioned to approve the Freddie Fixer Parade on Sunday, May 19, 2013 from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. with the necessary assistance from the Police Department, seconded by Mr. Mitchell. ***The motion passed unanimously.***
- b. Request for approval of 5 K Road Race & 1 K Kids Fun Run 6/8/13 – Chief Wydra advised the Commission that due to the change in the meeting date Mr. Tebbetts is not able to be present. Chief Wydra recommends that the request be approved. He has spoken with Mr. Tebbetts and he has agreed to the proper protection and safety measures stated by the Chief. Ms. Curtis motioned to approve the 5 K Road Race and 1 K Kids Fun Run as presented with Chief Wydra determining the necessary coverage from the police department, seconded by Mr. LaTorraca. ***The motion passed unanimously.***
- c. Request for Block Party, Warren St. between Third and Beaver Streets 8/24/13 – Mrs. Alberta Bickham, 98 Third St advised the Commission that there will be 15 families participating and hat all neighbor have been notified and invited to participate. Chief Wydra is aware of the area and recommends approval. The question of alcohol was raised and Ms. Bickman stated that if there is to be no alcohol she will inform the residents. The event will be from 12:00 noon to 7:00 p.m. Mr. LaTorraca motioned to approve the request for the Block Party, seconded by Mr. Strickland. ***The motion passed unanimously.***
- d. Request for approval Handicapped Parking sign for 55-57 First St. The requestor Randy Brunson is not present to discuss the request. Mr. LaTorraca motioned to table this item for the June 12, 2013 meeting, seconded by Mr. Strickland. ***The motion passed unanimously.*** A letter will be sent to Randy Brunson advising him/her of the June meeting.
- e. Request for Handicapped Parking sign, 55 First St. – Ms. Cheryl Atkinson addressed the Commission regarding this request. It was noted that her neighbor at 55-57 First St. has also requested a sign and it appears both request refer to “My Ride” pick up and drop off problems. After a brief discussion it was agreed that a Handicapped sign would be installed. Chief Wydra will visit the site to see if one sign could possibly benefit both requests. Ms. Curtis motioned to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Mitchell. ***The motion passed unanimously.***
- f. Memorial Day Parade approval – Chief Wydra provided the necessary request to the DOT for the Annual Parade and the approval letter from the DOT is enclosed. The Commission thanked the Chief for his advance thinking regarding this matter. Ms. Curtis motioned to approve the Memorial Day Parade, seconded by Mr. LaTorraca. ***The motion passed unanimously.***

Open Discussion – Commission/Department Heads

Nothing at this time.

Adjournment

At 6:39 p.m. Mr. LaTorrface motioned to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Strickland. *The motion carried unanimously.*

The next meeting will be Wednesday June 12, 2013 in the Activity Room at the Miller Library Complex 6:00 p.m.

Recorded by,

Catherine E. Gempka
Commission Clerk