

**Traffic Safety Committee**  
**November 24, 2015**

The Traffic Safety Committee met at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, November 24, 2015, in the classroom located on the lower level of the Municipal Center. The meeting commenced with Chairman John Stella, Member Tony Furco, Street Superintendent Anthony “Zep” Thomaselli, Police Chief Doug Solomon, Planning Board Representative Gary Barrack, Fire Chief Gary VanVoorhis, and Councilmember Pam Weatherbee.

**Old Business**

John Kelly, owner of The Hop, 554 Main Street, attended the meeting to join the discussion about parking in front of his building. He put up a “no parking” sign near the entrance because people were parking on the sidewalk directly in front of the building. He felt that area of Main Street is not wide enough to accommodate parking on both sides and by discouraging parking in front of his building the intersection with Verplanck Avenue is made safer. Mr. Kelly pointed out that there is not a lack of parking however people don’t know where they can park. They tend not to use the side streets where on-street parking is permitted, i.e. Ackerman Street. Discussion took place regarding expanding the hashed area in front of The Hop and delineating parking spaces from Herbert to their parking lot on the east side of Main Street. Parking on the west side previously considered would be difficult because it has a steep bank and passengers would have difficulty exiting. A lengthy debate took place about improving curbs to deter people from parking on the sidewalk.

Since the last meeting, the Highway Superintendent and Police Chief met with Jehovah Witness’ representative Michael Davis about parking along Howland Avenue. Areas where parking is allowed were reviewed and Mr. Davis indicated he would inform the congregation of the situation. Since that was done, there have been no complaints or problems.

Members reviewed minutes from the September meeting and provided updates on items that were discussed.

**New Business**

A request from Councilmember Ali Muhammad to review St. Lukes Place and consider making it a one-way street from Spring Valley Street to Union Street was discussed. He cited the street is narrow and it is difficult to exit onto Spring Valley Street when looking left. Police Chief Solomon did not feel there was enough traffic on the street to warrant a change. The street is not used as a thoroughfare and most people that use it live in the immediate area. Members believed changing it to a one-way street could possibly generate more complaints. The Code Enforcement Officer will be asked to visit the intersection to be certain hedges are not blocking sight distance. Mr. Furco suggested Councilmember Muhammad meet with all neighbors to see how they feel about the possible change.

Fire Chief Gary VanVoorhis reported the dwellings in Groveville Mills are poorly marked making it difficult for the Fire Department when responding to emergency calls. The Groveville development is served by only private roads and now the adjacent development (Mason Circle) will be moving in several new tenants in the near future. A lengthy discussion

took place regarding the need for a traffic light on Route 52. Members asked that prospective developments that are in the Planning Board approval process be referred to the Traffic Safety Committee and that they be provided with any traffic studies that are completed.

There was no further business to discuss and the next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 26, 2016. The meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.