

**CITY OF ONEIDA
TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD**

October 16, 2018

2:00 p.m.

MEMBERS:

IN ATTENDANCE

Public Safety Commissioner Mike West	___
Police Chief Paul Thompson	<u>yes</u>
Fire Department Rep Rob Cowles	<u>yes</u>
City Engineer	___
Traffic Advisor Robert Anderson	___
Chairman Bruce Burke	<u>yes</u>
Vice Chairman Donald White	___
Barbara Buehner	<u>yes</u>
Douglas Lippert	<u>yes</u>
Kathy Malinowski	<u>yes</u>
James Sweet	<u>yes</u>
Mike Kaiser	<u>yes</u>
Gary Hamer	<u>yes</u>
Kipp Hicks	<u>yes</u>
Jim Dalzell	<u>yes</u>

The regular meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairman Bruce Burke.

Moved by Barb Buehner
Seconded by Gary Hamer

RESOLVED, that the minutes of the regular meeting of 07/17/18 are hereby approved.

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

AGENDA ITEM NO. 1 – REQUEST FOR HIDDEN DRIVE SIGN

John Bortle, 1971 Mt. Hope Ave, Oneida sent a letter requesting that a hidden driveway sign be placed for traffic that is coming around the curve before his driveway and the intersection of Brewer Road.

Jim Dalzell said that this is a legitimate concern with the curve and the dip in the road before his driveway, along with the speed people are moving at. Kipp Hicks said that backing into his driveway must be troublesome. The Board members agreed that the sign should be placed for east bound traffic at the Traffic Advisor's discretion for the exact location.

Moved by Jim Dalzell
Seconded by Mike Kaiser

RESOLVED, that a Hidden Drive Sign be placed on Mt. Hope Avenue East Bound before the driveway at 1971 Mt. Hope Avenue with the location of said sign to be at the discretion of the City's Traffic Advisor.

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 2 & 3 – REMOVE SIGNS FROM DRIVEWAY AT 340 MAIN STREET
AND SIGNS FOR YIELD TO THE BLIND AT 346 MAIN STREET**

Bruce Ironside sent in a letter requesting that the no parking signs on each side of the driveway at 340 Main Street be removed, as his daughter owns that property now. He also suggested that the yield to the blind sign in front of 346 Main Street also be removed.

Mike Kaiser said that the yield to the blind sign was placed for an individual who is now deceased, so there is no need for the blind sign any longer. A motion was moved by Mike Kaiser and seconded by Barb Buehner to remove the signs in question. As the discussion continued, a question arose as to the removal of the signs on a State highway, and Chairman Burke said that the original request to place the yield to the blind signage was approved by the Traffic Safety Board. The Board questioned if any other yield to the blind signs were located in the area where the individual resided on Sands Street, and the Board decided to amend the resolution to include any other yield to the blind signs in the area of the individual's former residence on Sands Street.

Moved by Mike Kaiser

Seconded by Barb Buehner

RESOLVED, that the Traffic Advisor remove the two “no parking between signs” signs on either side of the driveway at 340 Main Street, **and be it further**

RESOLVED, that the Traffic Advisor remove the “State Law Yield to the Blind” sign in front of 346 Main Street and further authorize that any other “State Law Yield to the Blind” signs located in the area near Sands Street shall also be removed.

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

**AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 – REQUEST TO INSTALL FOUR WAY STOP SIGN AND PAINTED
CROSSWALK AT INTERSECTION OF E. ELM STREET AND WILLIAMS STREET**

James M. Knecht, 126 E. Elm Street, sent a letter requesting the immediate installation of a 4 way stop sign and painted crosswalks at the intersection of E. Elm and Williams Streets. Mr. Knecht cited in his letter that multiple accidents had occurred, people were using the road as a shortcut to avoid traffic lights, and there are apartment buildings on each corner with large numbers of children residing in these complexes. Mr. Knecht's letter also stated that the addition of stop signs would also slow the shortcut traffic on this road.

A lengthy discussion ensued. Chairman Burke said he was told that years ago there was a stop light at that intersection. He said that he has observed many times people slowing down or stopping at the Elm Street crossing. Police Chief Thompson said that he did a quick search and found that there were only two property damage accidents recorded at that intersection in the last five years. He noted that there was also one at Williams Street and Freighthouse Alley and one at Williams and Railroad Streets. Mike Kaiser said that there are apartments on all four corners, so there is a legitimate concern. Barb Buehner said people forget to stop at Elm Street sometimes. The Board discussed the purpose of stop signs. Police Chief Thompson said that we shouldn't try to over-regulate traffic. Jim Dalzell said that it seems odd that it is being used as a shortcut, but from a safety point there is a concern. Barb Buehner said that there are two school bus stops there, along with the Birnie Bus picking up handicapped residents. Discussion continued

with Fire Department Representative Rob Cowles noting that the city is already polluted with signs. Chief Thompson said that there are likely to be more accidents if new signage is added, as people are not used to seeing it there and may fail to stop. Jim Dalzell said that with only two accidents in five years, the traffic should be free flowing. Kipp Hicks questioned if crosswalks can be painted. Doug Lippert said that he would yield to the Police Chief on this matter, and the Board agreed. The Police Chief said that one of the accidents recorded was on Dec 22nd, and there were multiple weather related accidents all over the City that day. The Board agreed that Ward 4 Councilor Helen Acker should be copied on the letter to keep her in the loop with the Board's decision.

Moved by Barb Buehner
Seconded by Mike Kaiser

RESOLVED, that Mr. James M. Knecht, 126 E. Elm Street be sent a letter from the Chairman denying his request and explaining the reasoning as to why his request is being denied, including citing the correct accident statistics, the purpose of a stop sign, changing traffic flows causes accidents, and effect on the school bus stops.

Ayes: 9
Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS – REPLACE THE HANDICAP PARKING DECAL AND STRIPING IN FRONT OF 308 MAIN STREET

Chairman Bruce Burke said that Barb from Oneida Dental called today stating that they have a handicap parking space in front of their office. She said that when the road was redone a couple of years ago, the decal and striping was covered over, and they were told that it would be replaced once they were done with the road work. She said that it still has not been done and asked that the handicap decal and striping be placed on the road below that existing sign. Kipp said that the request should be reviewed with Bob Anderson, the City's Traffic Advisor.

Moved by Kipp Hicks
Seconded by Mike Kaiser

RESOLVED, to approve the request from the Oneida Dental Group to replace the handicap decal and striping in front of the office at 308 Main Street after review with the Traffic Advisor.

Ayes: 9
Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

Barbara A. Buehner, 300 Verona Street, submitted a request to remove two stop signs located on Lake Street by Gladwell Avenue.

Chairman Burke said that he wondered about the history and logic involved when locating the stop signs there. Police Chief Thompson said that he has no objections to removing the signs.

Moved by Barbara Buehner
Seconded by Kipp Hicks

RESOLVED, to authorize the Traffic Advisor to remove both the north and south stop signs on Lake Street at the Gladwell Avenue intersection.

Ayes: 9

Nays: 0

MOTION CARRIED

OLD BUSINESS

Radar Speed Readers

Mike Kaiser inquired about the radar speed readers and Chief Thompson said that he asked for two in his budget for next year and is hoping to get at least one. Chairman Burke said he has heard nothing from Assemblyman Magee's office. Chairman Burke said according to Police Chief Thompson, Senator Griffo's office contacted the Village of Vernon Police Department about receiving some grant funding. He said that he modified the letter to Senator Valesky's office to include noting Griffo's grant for Vernon and mailed the letter on September 20, 2018. He said that to date he has not had a response. Doug Lippert said that Stop DWI funding cannot be used for this purpose. The Board asked the Chairman to give Senator Valesky a call to see if he has any funding available before the end of his term.

The next scheduled meeting is January 15, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers.

Moved by Barb Buehner

Seconded by Kipp Hicks

The meeting is hereby adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Pulverenti
City Clerk