

TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN – BOARD OF SELECTMEN

2001 ANNUAL TRAFFIC HEARING – MARCH 13, 2001

JUDGE WELSH HEARING ROOM

The following minutes are available on-line as a service and are not the official record due to changes in formatting for the Internet. The minutes may have attachments that are not included here in this format. The official, complete paper copy can be viewed during regular office hours, Monday - Friday: 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Office of the Town Clerk, 260 Commercial St. Provincetown, MA 02657.

Chairman, Betty Steele-Jeffers opened the meeting at 7 PM noting the following attendees:

Board of Selectmen members: Elizabeth Steele-Jeffers, Cheryl Andrews, Mary-Jo Avellar, David Atkinson Absent: Richard Prowell

Other Attendees: Keith Bergman - Town Manager, Mark Latour – Assistant Town Manager

Transportation Team Members: Don Richards – Parking Administrator, Robert Anthony – Chief of Police

Recorder: Vernon Porter, Secretary to Board of Selectmen

The following are minutes in brief.

Chairman Steel-Jeffers opened the meeting by ready the Public Hearing Notices. Each item will discussed and acted upon as follows: 1) comment from member of public in favor of the proposals, 2) comments from members of public in opposition of the proposals, 3) comments from the public, 4) read into the record any material received 4) comments from the selectmen., 5) comments from the Transportation Team , 6) Voted upon by the Board of Selectmen.

Item 1

Revise Town of Provincetown Parking and Traffic Regulations, Chapter 6, Article 2. Eligibility; 6-2-1 Residence Status for Resident Permit to read as follows (changes in ***bold italics***):

Resident status shall be determined by those vehicles registered to ***permanent*** residents in Provincetown, ***as shown by both a license and registration to a street address in Provincetown***, and paying vehicle excise tax to the Town of Provincetown. (Submitted by Don Richards, Parking Administrator)

Team Recommendation: The Team recommends approval. This item is recommended as part of the Town Wide Policy Goal to update and codify the Town Parking and Traffic Regulations. **1.** The eligibility wording has not been updated since 1985. The revision clears up vague wording and documents in the regulation, the verification procedure that has been in effect for many years. **2.** These guidelines are in compliance with MA Registry law, which requires a new MA resident to obtain a MA driver's license and registration, the law does not provide a grace period. MA Registry law further requires a MA resident to notify the Registry of a change in address within 30 days. This notification triggers a change of license and registration to the new address.

<p>Item 1 Board Action: <i>Motion to approve to as amended to read: as shown by both a Massachusetts Drivers License and Massachusetts Registration to a street address in Provincetown. Motion by; Cheryl Andrews</i> <i>Seconded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 4 Nay 0</i></p>

Item 2

Increase tax reducing parking revenues by raising hourly parking meter fees to \$.25 every 20 minutes, or \$.75 per hour. (Submitted by Don Richards, Parking Administrator)

Team Recommendation: The Team fully supports this item. It will reverse the decline in meter revenues

and would generate over \$50,000 per year in badly needed, additional tax reducing parking revenues for the Town. However, this item is dependent on appropriating Capital improvement money for electronic parking meters. This funding was eliminated for FY2001 to help fund the unanticipated increase in the Town's health care premiums. The Team recommends that this item be tabled until money is appropriated for the new electronic parking meters.

Item 2 Board Action: *Motion to take no action at this time.* (Individual or their representative did not attend hearing.) *Motion by: Cheryl Andrews Secoded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 4 Nay 0*

Item 3

Expand the supply of revenue producing parking spaces and generate additional tax reducing revenues by metering the Jerome Smith Lot. This will create an additional 30 car spaces and 11 camper spaces. (Submitted by Don Richards, Parking Administrator)

Team Recommendation: The Team fully supports this item. This will generate new parking revenues; expand the number of revenue producing spaces and provide an overflow lot serviced by the shuttle. However, the funding for new meters was part of the request for electronic meters. For the reasons stated in Item 2, the Team also recommends that this item be tabled until money is appropriated for new meters.

Item 3 Board Action: *Motion to take no action at this time* (Individual or their representative did not attend hearing.) *Motion by: Cheryl Andrews Secoded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 4 Nay 0*

Item 4

Discuss the concept of: a) closing Ryder Street to vehicle traffic a couple of nights a week and b) close Commercial Street from Ryder Street to Court Street from 9 PM to 2 AM from Memorial Day through Labor Day. (Submitted by Mary-Jo Avellar)

Team Recommendation: a) close Ryder St. Ryder Street is a key access/egress St. in the downtown area for MacMillan Pier, the Transportation Center, MPL and Fisherman's Wharf. The shuttle, which runs to 12:30 AM and other buses exit the Transportation Center through Ryder Street. Diverting buses back through Lopes Square for the Portuguese Festival in June causes a bad traffic tie up in the square. We are concerned with added congestion due to the Pier construction. There are 19 metered parking spaces on Ryder Street that are in effect to midnight. Closing Ryder Street might be better suited to a specific event like a Street Fair.

b) close Commercial St. The Team feels it is essential to keep Standish and Ryder Sts. open or we would isolate MacMillan Pier, MPL/Transportation Center and Fisherman's Wharf. Traffic control will be an issue, it will take Police coverage at Ryder & Commercial as well as Carver & Bradford for the duration of the ban. Final decision should include input from affected business owners and residents. If approved, recommend a limited test program for the first year, example, Saturday nights. Evaluate at the end of the season.

Item 4 Board Action: *Motion to closing Commercial Street from Ryder Street to Carver Street from 9 PM to 2 AM on Wednesday and Saturday nights during the month of July 2001.*

Motion by: David Atkinson Secoded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 3 Nay 1 (Cheryl Andrews)

Item 5

Eliminate the parking space across from Atlantic Avenue altogether or redraw the lines so that vehicles are able to get in and out of the driveway at 6 Atlantic Avenue. (Submitted by: Brenda Dean/Jill Smith)

Team Recommendation: For all requests that would eliminate a parking space, the Team's recommendations take into account the Board's previously stated desire to maintain on-street parking spaces where ever possible. The team recommends no to this request because of two factors. Atlantic Avenue is reasonably wide at this point. We measured 14' 9" to a parked full size SUV. The 16' wide driveway is intended to and in the Team's estimate does provide the room to maneuver a vehicle in and out of the driveway when there is a vehicle in the space across the street. (See Item 5 photos)

Item 5 Board Action: *Motion to eliminate parking space across from Atlantic Ave. Motion by: Mary-Jo Avellar - No Second.*

*Motion to deny request of applicants. Motion by: David Atkinson Secoded by: Cheryl Andrews
Yea 3 Nay 1 (Mary-Jo Avellar)*

Item 6

Recommend that Nickerson Street be changed to "two-way" from Commercial Street to Tremont Street. (Submitted by Anita R. Berman)

Team Recommendation: The Team recommends no for public safety reasons. There is a blind corner at Tremont and Nickerson, which was a cause of accidents when the street was two-way. Nickerson Street (only 12' wide near the corner of Tremont St.) is not wide enough for two-way traffic. SUV photo shows no room for two-way passage. (See Item 6 photos.)

Item 6 Board Action: *Motion to change Nickerson Street to two-way from Commercial Street to Tremont Street. Motion by: David Atkinson Secoded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 3 Nay 1 (Betty Steele-Jeffers)*

Item 7

Move the handicapped parking at Commercial Street and Conant Street to the west side of Commercial at Atlantic Avenue where it was previously. (Submitted by Mrs. Anita Berman)

Team Recommendation: The Team recommends no. The first space west of Atlantic is in a narrow spot and adjacent to a busy corner restriction. The present space is at a wider spot and more accessible to handicapped vans. This space is only four spaces away from the requested space. (See Item 7 photos.)

Item 7 Board Action: *Motion to take no action. (Individual or their representative did not attend hearing.)
Motion by: Cheryl Andrews Secoded by: David Atkinson Yea 4 Nay 0*

Item 8

Install bike racks near the dingy dock at the end of MacMillian Pier or at the beginning of the pier in the MPL parking area. (Submitted by Shari Kadison)

Team Recommendation: Due to pier construction we do not recommend a bike rack on the pier at this time. Should be brought up when developing plans for the Pier Corporation. Team recommends installing a bike rack at the end of the pier in the island between the pier and the MPL, behind the MacMillan pier commemorative stone. (See Item 8 photos.)

Item 8 Board Action: *Motion to approve the installation of a double bike rack at the end of the pier in the island between the pier and the MPL, behind the MacMillan Pier commemorative stone. Motion by: David Atkinson Secoded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 4 Nay 0*

Item 9

Remove approximately 28' of legal street parking adjacent to the #6 Pearl Street wall. (Submitted by Edward Chapin)

Team Recommendation: Team recommends approval. 28' is only enough for 1 legal space. The renovated house is right up against the edge of the street. The narrow width of the street adjacent to the property does appear to leave the structure vulnerable to impact from vehicles pulling into the space. (See Item 9 photos.)

Item 9 Board Action: *Motion to remove approximately 28' of legal street parking adjacent to the #6 Pearl Street wall. Motion by: Mary-Jo Avellar Secoded by: Betty Steele-Jeffers Yea 3 Nay 1 (Cheryl Andrews)*

Item 10

Prohibit parking at the Corner of Howland & Bradford adjacent to Patrician Store. Permit parallel parking only at location of Howland & Bradford. Make Howland a one-way street heading out towards Route 6 North. (Submitted by Lucy Singer Farkas)

Team Recommendation: The distance from a vehicle in the space closest to Bradford Street to the Howland St. center line is only 7'. This is inadequate. The Team recommends eliminating the space closest to the corner of Bradford St. to create a corner restriction and improve visibility at the intersection. The Team also recommends increasing the angle on the remaining spaces going up Howland Street. The Team does not recommend making Howland Street one-way, Howland is an important access/egress street and it is wide enough for two-way traffic. (See Item photos.)

Item 10 Board Action: 1) *Motion not to make Howland Street one-way. Motion by: Mary-Jo Avellar Secoded by: David Atkinson Yea 4 Nay 0* 2) *Motion to table the rest of this item until a it can be determined if the area in question is public or private property and if spaces encroaches on public way. Bring back at Board of Selectmen meeting on March 26, 2001. Motion by: David Atkinson Secoded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 4 Nay 0*

Action taken at Board of Selectmen meeting March 26, 2001:

MOTION: *Move that the Board of Selectmen eliminate the first space on Howland Street at the corner of Howland and Bradford Street. This would create a corner restriction, improve visibility and maneuvering space at the intersection to eliminate parking in a public way and retain 6 spaces that have been in use for many years. Motion by: David Atkinson Secoded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 4 Nay 1 (Betty Steele-Jeffers)*

Item 11

Eliminate the parking space in front of 444 Commercial Street or move it down in either direction because it obstructs the driveway at 455 Commercial Street. (Submitted by Michael F. Fernon)

Team Recommendation: The Team recommends no. There is 13' of clearance from the driveway to a parked vehicle across the street. The driveway is 13' wide, which allows room to maneuver. We pulled a full sized SUV into the driveway and were able to pull out with no problem. (See Item 11 photos.)

Item 11 Board Action: *Motion to take no action at this time.* (Individual or their representative did not attend hearing.) *Motion by: Cheryl Andrews Secoded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 4 Nay 0*

Item 12

Extend the parking ban on Commercial Street through the month of November to facilitate delivery trucks, trolleys and horse and carriages. If not all of commercial Street, then from Johnson Street to Court Street. (Submitted by Yvonne Cabral Edwards)

Team Recommendation: The Team recommends approval. The Police Department and the Parking Department both receive numerous complaints during the month of November that the delivery trucks can't find places to park to make deliveries. This compliments the VSB campaign to promote off-season business.

Item 12 Board Action: *Motion not to recommend to extend the parking ban on Commercial Street through the month of November.*

Motion by: David Atkinson Secoded by: Cheryl Andrews Yea 4 Nay 0

Item 13

Reduce the total length of the parking space at the intersection of Center and Bradford Street to 20', removing 2 feet from the east side (driveway) and 3 feet from the west side (Center Street). (Submitted by Joan Lenane)

Team Recommendation: The Team recommends approval as requested. This will not eliminate a space and it will create a proper driveway restriction as well as extend the corner restriction at Center & Bradford. (See Item 13 photos.)

Item 13 Board Action: *Motion to reduce the total length of the parking space at the intersection of Center and Bradford Street to 18'. Motion by: Mary-Jo Avellar Secoded by: David Atkinson Yea 4 Nay 0*

Item 14

Create a walkway restriction at 2 Allerton Street so that cars will not park and block the entrance. (Submitted by Marian Roth)

Team Recommendation: The Team recommends approval. Allerton is a state road, but we have authorization to make road markings for public safety reasons. (See Item 14 photos.)

Item 14 Board Action: *Motion to approve as written. Motion by: Mary-Jo Avellar Secoded by: David Atkinson Yea 4 Nay 0*

Item 15

Recommend North side of Winthrop Street be resident parking only. *(Submitted by Thomas F. Steele)*

Team Recommendation: The Team recommends approval. There are currently 3 resident restricted spaces on Winthrop St., this would create 8 new spaces. The request is consistent with those streets previously approved. Recommend parking on Winthrop Street be restricted to Resident and Non-Resident Property Owner Permits Only. (See Item 15 photos.)

Item 15 Board Action: *Recommend No Action be taken.* (Individual or their representative did not attend hearing.) *Motion by: Mary-Jo Avellar Secoded by: Cheryl Andrews Yea 4 Nay 0*

Item 16

Eliminate the parking in front of 73A Commercial Street – 3 spaces in total because the area is too narrow for delivery trucks and trolleys. *(Submitted by Stephen Judge)*

Team Recommendation: We measured the spaces, the space closest to the corner has only 10' clearance to a parked vehicle, the other two have 11' clearance. The Team recommends eliminating the space closest to West Vine St., this is the narrowest spot and should be made into a corner restriction. (See Item 16 photos.)

Item 16 Board Action: *Move to replace the current 3 spaces with three compact spaces from Soper to West Vine Street. Motion by: Mary-Jo Avellar Secoded by: David Atkinson Yea 4 Nay 0*

Item 17

Place bollards at the entrance to the Town Landing located between 73 & 73A Commercial Street to allow for the movement of small boats but not for car and trucks. *(Submitted by Stephen Judge)*

Team Recommendation: The Team recommends no. This is a Chapter 91, public Town landing. Bollards would restrict the ability of boat trailers to maneuver and launch boats. Parking in the area is an enforcement issue. (See Item 17 photos.)

Item 17 Board Action: *Recommend no action be taken at this time.* (Individual or their representative did not attend hearing.) *Motion by: David Atkinson Secoded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 4 Nay 0*

Item 18

Extend the yellow restricted area from the walkway at 205 Bradford Street to the driveway at 203 Bradford Street. *(Submitted by Paul Church & Dana Milton)*

Team Recommendation: The Team recommends approval. The space between the walkway and driveway (13') is not long enough to be a legal parking space. Extending the yellowed out area to the driveway will create a proper driveway restriction.

Item 18 Board Action: *This item inadvertently left off public notice therefore recommend the date of April 9, 2001 at 7 PM be set for a Public Hearing for this item to be heard by the Board of Selectmen. Motion by: Cheryl Andrews Seconded by: Mary-Jo Avellar Yea 4 Nay 0*

Send letters to everyone that submitted traffic proposal. Also indicated where “motion to take no action” that this was done so as the individual or their representative did not attend the hearing as specified in the context of the Public Hearing Notice.

Motion to adjourn by Cheryl Andrews at 9:30 PM.

Minutes transcribed by: Vernon Porter, Secretary
March 19, 2001