



# Town of Natick

## Minutes

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Board or Committee: SAFETY COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: THURSDAY, JANUARY 16, 2020

Meeting Location: NATICK POLICE DEPARTMENT CONLEY TRAINING CENTER

Members and Staff Present: Chief Hicks, Chief Lentini, Lt. Lauzon, James Freas, Alan Grady, Dave Gusmini, Tom Hladick, Joe Weiss, Jeremy Marsette

Members not Present: Peter Gray

The meeting was called to order at: 6:02 PM

Minutes from the October 16, 2019 were reviewed and approved.

### Meeting Motions/Actions and Summary of Discussions:

#### OLD BUSINESS:

**Request for 2 hour Parking Restriction Monday – Friday 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM on the following streets:** Church Street, Lincoln Street, Wilson Street, Grant Street. Parking on Lincoln Street has become a major concern as Public Safety, DPW Snow Removal and Sanitation vehicles are unable to navigate the street. Discussions were held explaining to residents any changes made to restrict parking on Lincoln Street will have a residual effect on neighboring streets. Residents of Wilson Street complained that vehicles were parking too close to the intersection at the north end of the street causing site line issues for vehicles turning onto West Central Street. Natick Police to enforce 'No Parking 20 ft. to Intersection'. Lt. Lauzon will check area for current No Parking Here to intersection and coordinate with DPW for installation in areas necessary. TABLE pending further review.

**Request by Town Engineer to discuss design and construction options for Walnut Street Bacon Street Intersection.** Discussions held on how to make this intersection safer. Mitigation funds from Mathworks are designated for this intersection. Traffic data will be compiled and design sketches of findings will be presented to Safety Committee. TABLE pending updates from Town Engineer as project progresses.

**Resident Request install Pedestrian Crossing signs similar signs to those in front of Town Hall with LED Heads on Pond Street at High Street.** Committee VOTED to Recommend to Board of Selectmen to install MUTCD Double Backed High Visibility Pedestrian Activated Crossing signs at crosswalk on Pond Street at High Street.

**Resident Request the following:**

- Eliminate Right on Red on West Central Street at Washington Avenue
- Add Crossing Signal on West Central Street at Forest Street
- Dedicate a Police Officer to the crossing at the Natick Center Train Station between the first and last rush hour trains
- Add traffic calming measure at Natick Center Train Station (reduced width crossing, raised table cross walks, illuminated crossing and or crossing signal)
- Aggressive Enforcement

Committee held discussions on request by each concern individually as follows:

- Eliminate Right on Red on West Central Street at Washington Ave - Committee felt this would back up traffic on 135 and would needlessly stop people in off commuting hours. Committee VOTED to TAKE NO ACTION.
- Add Crossing Signal on West Central Street at Forest Street – Committee discussed the location of this crosswalk, not a very utilized crosswalk was put in place for protection of stopping school buses. Recommend that residents come to center of Natick and use crosswalk at intersection of West Central Street and Main Street. Committee VOTED to TAKE NO ACTION.
- Dedicated Officer to Natick Center Train Station during rush hour trains. Committee VOTED to TAKE NO ACTION – Safety Committee is not in position to make such determination.
- Add Traffic calming measure at Natick Center Train Station – MBTA will be will be undergoing campaign for Commuter Station, pedestrian and street scape improvements.
- Aggressive Enforcement – Committee discussed as an organization the Natick Police Department utilizes resources that they have when and where they can.

**Minutes submitted by: Marylee E. Watkins**

**Meeting adjourned at: 8:15 PM**

**Next Meeting Date: February 18, 2020**