

CITY OF NEWARK
Newark, Delaware

TRAFFIC COMMITTEE MEETING

July 15, 2014

3:30 p.m.

Members Present: Chief Paul Tiernan, Lt. Bill Hargrove, Marvin Howard, Tom Coleman, Tom Parkins

Members Absent: Dave Gula, Andrew Haines

Guests: Polly Sierer, Mayor
Marge Hadden, Councilmember
Melissa Abbott, Resident
Katy Appelhans, Resident
Andrea Boulden, Resident
Maria DeSimone, Resident
Linda Henker, Resident
Albert Porach, Resident
Kimberly Wagner, Resident

**1. REQUEST TO EXTEND RITTER LANE “NO PARKING ANYTIME”
DESIGNATION TO INCLUDE 101 RITTER LANE AND 442 TOWNSEND
ROAD.**

Chief Tiernan said at a prior Traffic Committee meeting members unanimously approved a request to designate both sides of Ritter Lane between Orchard and Townsend Roads as “No Parking Anytime”. However, 101 Ritter Lane and 442 Townsend Road were not part of the affected area and would like to be included.

Chief Tiernan said Councilmember Gifford conducted research and found portions of roads may be designated as “No Parking Anytime” in lieu of the whole street.

Chief Tiernan said he and Lt. Hargrove conducted a site visit and found that by extending no parking 100’ west of Townsend Road would include the petitioners’ homes.

Councilmember Hadden said both she and Councilmember Gifford were in support of this request.

**MOTION BY LT. HARGROVE, SECONDED BY MARVIN HOWARD TO
EXTEND THE NO PARKING TO 100' WEST OF TOWNSEND ROAD.**

MOTION PASSED. VOTE: 5 TO 0.

Chief Tiernan said this item would receive a 1st reading by Council on 7/28. Mayor Sierer said it would then go before council for a 2nd reading on 8/11 and recommended the residents attend this meeting in support of their request.

**2. REQUEST TO INSTALL A STOP SIGN MAKING WILSON AND
CHELTENHAM ROADS A 3-WAY STOP INTERSECTION.**

Lt. Hargrove said the radar speed sign was installed on Cheltenham Road to measure speed and volume. Lt. Hargrove said the average speed was 20.2 mph and the max speed was 37 mph. The 85th percentile speed was 27 mph. The volume was between 82 to 100 vehicles per day. Lt. Hargrove noted the results were only captured in one direction.

Tom Coleman said stop signs are typically not used to control speed and provides a false sense of security. However, he recommended installing "Caution, Children at Play" signs.

Tom Coleman said prior to considering other forms of traffic control, they would need to take some measurements. Tom said another option that would work well in this area and to consider would be a mid-block chicane.

Lt. Hargrove said the Newark Police Department would be happy to address any known violators if residents would be willing to provide their information.

Mr. Wagner said there are no posted speed limit signs on the street. Lt. Hargrove said in neighborhoods the speed limit is always 25 mph unless posted otherwise.

Tom Coleman said it may also be helpful if residents were willing to put "Drive 25" stickers on their refuse cans.

Lt. Hargrove said the Newark Police Department is willing to work with the residents and would like to know if they notice a pattern or certain time of day that seems to more of an issue.

Tom Coleman asked if one resident would want to be the point of contact for providing the stickers to everyone for their refuse cans. Ms. Wagner stepped forward to be the point of contact. Lt. Hargrove said he also has yard signs as well that he could provide to anyone that was interested.

One resident said he feels that between 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. there seems to be an increase in speeding in the neighborhood.

One resident stated he felt this was just one example of the city and community working together and this was the reason he and his wife moved to Newark.

**MOTION BY TOM COLEMAN, SECONDED BY MARVIN HOWARD TO
INSTALL "CAUTION, CHILDREN AT PLAY" SIGNS WEST OF OLD OAK
ROAD AND THE OPPOSITE END OF BRIAR LANE.**

MOTION PASSED. VOTE: 5 TO 0.

New Business:

Mr. Porach asked if there were ordinances to regulate vehicles with loud mufflers and noise from loud radios. Lt. Hargrove said the Division of Motor Vehicles regulates loud mufflers and the city has an ordinance to regulate loud radios. Lt. Hargrove said the Newark Police Department would address any complaints regarding loud radios.

Old Business:

Tom Parkins asked Tom Coleman regarding the status of Cleveland Avenue/Capitol Trail. Tom Coleman said DelDOT expects to have this paving project completed by the Fall of 2014.



Paul M. Tiernan, Chairman