

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2015

Present: Ald. Ciccone (Chair), Yates, Cote, Fuller, Lipof, Schwartz and Johnson

Absent: Ald. Harney

City Staff: Chief Howard Mintz, Sgt. Jay Babcock and Officer Rocco Marini, Newton Police Department

#302-13(2) PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, requesting the Chief of Police provide periodic updates to the Committee on the departmental review, completed in July 2013. [04/16/14 @ 1:10 PM]

HELD 7-0 on 05/07/14, Ald. Harney not voting

ACTION: NO ACTION NECESSARY 6-0, Ald. Lipof not voting

NOTE: Chief Mintz joined the Committee for discussion on this item.

Chair Ciccone said that this item was previously held to allow Chief Mintz the opportunity to return to this committee to provide updates on the department accomplishments and personnel.

Chief Mintz stated that he is pleased to provide an update to this committee on the outcome of his report including culture/gender, training, community relations, equipment and the department bureaus documented in the July 2013 departmental review report. The budget and override has allowed him to provide better equipment, additional staffing and direction.

In the past, gender, culture and staffing were major issues. The past year has allowed the department to employ two women comprising 12% of the Police Department. The national average is 13% and the FBI has approximately 20% female employees. Last May, the department had a staffing compliment of 138 positions filled with 5 openings. Currently the department is complimented with 141 positions sworn officers. There are 6 openings including 2 unanticipated retirements. The Police Department has hired a domestic violence officer and an elder's affairs officer. Chief Mintz anticipates after July 1, the compliment to be 148 to 149 positions and hopes to hire a crime prevention officer. Chief Mintz hopes to continue performance evaluations and shift change options and then said that the retiree police detail officers are working well.

Since May 2014, overtime expenses have decreased \$182,000 due to staffing increase and compensatory time decrease.

Culture/Gender

Studies indicate that a Police Department can have more than one culture. Issues of culture/gender are often difficult to address. Culture is a product of training, discipline,

education, selection process of personnel, the community served, and morale. Workplace harassment training was recently provided to all members in the department in 2012. City harassment policies are issued annually to all employees. Code of conduct adopted by each police officer and dispatcher prohibits gender discrimination. All female officers have been invited and are encouraged to join the Massachusetts Association of Women in Law Enforcement.

Training

Training is imperative for morale and professionalism. The department is scheduling police academy training sessions. Training is going well including in-house in-service training program sessions including training for four days, ½ day firearm training and 8-hour rifle training. The department exceeds the state minimum of 40 hours training. Since May, the department has successfully completed 6400 hours of specialized training. The department anticipates training to continue enhancing anti-terrorism and officer safety drills. Suicide training is ongoing. The department is in the process of completing a grant application to hire an in-house social worker that would benefit any departmental needs.

Community Relations

Parking, walking and talking to the community is slated to begin in late April 2015 to document and report on any issues, if necessary.

Equipment

The department has replaced older vehicles with fuel-efficient vehicles, replaced laptop computers in the cruisers, evaluated and changed uniforms.

Departmental Bureaus

- Dispatch Bureau - Twenty-three dispatchers. Supervisors are now receiving training.
- K-9 Unit- Is now dissolved. The department has 1 full-time and 1 part-time officer.
- Traffic Bureau – There are several openings; additional staff is desired. Two traffic specialist officers are working weekends on rotating schedules. Bicycle and pedestrian accidents continue. Additional enforcement is necessary to distracted driving infractions with the new unmarked cruiser to enhance bicycle and pedestrian safety with directed patrols.

Committee members expressed their questions, concerns and suggestions.

Questions

- Is the Human Resources Department involved in the hiring process?
- Is the City vulnerable to computer hacking?
- Do officers carry body cameras or taser guns?
- Does the department have a database depicting school building access?
- Are the schools ‘up to code’ with locks and entrance mechanisms?

Concerns

- Committee members expressed their concerns with personal snow removal issues, including the removal of parking bans perhaps premature, smoking concerns in the Newton North High School perimeter and challenges that the school traffic supervisors encounter.

Suggestions

- Increase diversity for hire including both ethnicity and women veterans.
- Continue publishing positive Police Department accomplishments.

Chief Mintz answered that he has not been in recent contact with the Human Resources Department and explained the process. He said that the Police Department hiring and promotional processes are restricted by civil service laws, rules and criteria, and require preference to Newton residents and veterans. Special Civil Service candidate lists are restricted to minority or gender-based certifications are available. Civil service exams and recruitment information is being posted Citywide.

Chief Mintz answered that the officers do not have body cameras or taser guns. The department has blue prints of the City school building depicting access. The department has not experienced any computer hacking. Sgt. Babcock answered that the department issued 24 citations and 100 verbal warnings to contractors. The contractor has 3-4 hours to rectify a complaint, if not they are cited. Often, the school traffic supervisors encounter very difficult circumstances including blue zone enforcement. A School Resource officer would benefit the middle schools. The department performs school drill trainings. Communication mechanisms are still necessary and some challenges remain.

Committee members commended and thanked Chief Mintz for his diligence, experience, leadership and efforts on his report and making planned actions come to fruition.

Without further discussion, Ald. Johnson made a motion for no action necessary. Committee members agreed 6-0, Ald. Lipof not voting.

#81-15 POLICE DEPARTMENT submitting reports of semi-annual taxi license/public auto inspections for review. [03/23/15 @ 3:54 PM]

ACTION: **APPROVED 6-0, Ald. Lipof not voting**

NOTE: Officer Marini joined the Committee for discussion on this item.

Committee members were provided with a copy of the semi-annual inspection report, dated April 6, 2015, attached to this report. The report reflects current information regarding business addresses and business phone numbers. It was noted that Anis Lahiani, Newton Town Taxi, Medallion #53, has moved his taxi business address from 4 Cedar St #405 Wellesley, MA 02481 to 8201 Inwood Drive, Woburn, MA 01801.

Officer Marini explained the process of taxi and public auto vehicle inspections. He said that the Police Department completes their inspection each March and October. He reported that all vehicles passed inspection and he recommends approval for those public autos and taxi medallions.

Committee members then asked about Uber transportation service in Newton. Officer Marini stated that he has received many complaints from Newton transportation companies informing him that Uber is taking business away from them.

Officer Marini said that the Police and Law Departments are in the process of modifying the *Article XII, Vehicles for Hire* section of the City Ordinance. It is the intent when updating the City Ordinances to include regulations for Uber vehicles. *Sec. 19-330. Requirement of a license* prohibits a driver of a taxicab or public automobile that is licensed to operate in another city or town from driving through Newton, or from accepting a passenger. Uber transportation services violate this section of the City Ordinance.

Taxi licensees in Newton are checked on CORI reports; this is not required for other vehicles. Livery and taxi vehicle registrations cost approximately \$7,000 each per year. Uber registrations cost approximately \$500 each per year. Officer Marini prefers that all licensees and vehicles be inspected and licensed the same.

Without further discussion, Ald. Yates made the motion to approve these semi-annual taxi license/public auto inspections. Committee members agreed 6-0, Ald. Lipof not voting.

#115-14 FRAN KUEHN, 37 Fairfield Street, appealing the Approval of TC1-14 Traffic Council Decision on February 27, 2014: SGT. BABCOCK, requesting a parking restriction on Fairfield Street, to allow for emergency vehicle access. (Ward 2) [03/17/14 @ 4:10 PM]
HELD on 06/18/14, 5-0-1, Ald. Ciccone abstaining, Ald. Schwartz not voting on a 60-day trial to remove the no parking, any time, west side of Fairfield Street parking restriction approved by Traffic Council on 02/27/14.
HELD on 09/17/14, 5-0-1, Ald. Harney abstaining, Ald. Cote not voting to continue the trial for an additional 180-days to remove the no parking, anytime, west side of Fairfield Street parking restriction approved by Traffic Council on 02/27/14.

ACTION: APPEAL APPROVED, 6-0, Ald. Lipof not voting

NOTE: Mr. Kuehn and Sgt. Babcock joined the Committee for discussion on this item.

Chair Ciccone said that this item was previously held regarding Sgt. Babcock's concern of parking during the winter month to determine if neighbors can in fact self-regulate ('police') their own street. Fourteen letters were mailed to Fairfield Street residents inviting them to this meeting.

Sgt. Babcock stated that approximately 90% of the residents are adhering to his request and they are in fact doing a decent job on "policing" their own street. It appears that residents are not parking side by side. Residents must use common sense for emergency vehicle access and 'staggered' parking is necessary. Safety is the first priority and emergency vehicles must have easy access. Sgt. Babcock then stated that he would support this appeal with the understanding that if necessary, the Police Department will again implement a parking restriction.

Chair Ciccone opened the discussion to members of the public who were present. Fran Kuehn, petitioner said that the neighbors are communicating, using common sense and are requesting their visitors and contractors to do the same when parking. He is hopeful the appeal will be approved as he feels that the trials have gone well.

Committee members were pleased to hear that the residents were adhering to Sgt. Babcock's concerns and requests.

Without discussion, Ald. Johnson made a motion to approve the appeal, eliminating the parking restriction implemented by Traffic Council on February 27, 2014. Committee members agreed to approve the appeal 6-0, Ald. Lipof not voting.

At approximately 9:45 pm, Ald. Yates made a motion to adjourn. Committee members agreed 6-0, Ald. Lipof not voting.

Respectfully submitted,

Allan Ciccone, Jr. Chairman

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2014

Present: Ald. Ciccone (Chair), Yates, Cote, Fuller, Schwartz, Lipof, Harney and Johnson

Also Present: Ald. Albright

City Staff: Chief Howard Mintz, Lt. Kenneth D'Angelo and Captain Dennis Dowling, Newton Police Department; Dr. Dori Zaleznik, Chief Administrative Officer; Laura McGerigle, Senior Dispatch Supervisor; Donnalyn Khan, City Solicitor; Marie Lawlor, Assistant City Solicitor; Linda Walsh, Interim Commissioner Health and Human Services and Wesley Layne, Director Human Resources

#302-13 ALD. FULLER, CICCONE & ALBRIGHT, requesting a presentation and discussion by the Executive Office and Chief of Police on the findings of the recently completed Newton Police Department departmental review. [08/12/13 @ 8:32 PM]

HELD 6-0 on 04/09/14

ACTION: NO ACTION NECESSARY 7-0, Ald. Harney not voting

NOTE: Docket items #302-13 and #302-13(2) were discussed together. Refer to #302-13(2) below.

Chair Ciccone said that he is hopeful that this item can be voted no action necessary since an item has been docketed allowing Chief Mintz the opportunity to attend future Public Safety & Transportation meetings to provide period updates several times per year.

Without further discussion, Ald. Yates made the motion for no action necessary on this item. Committee members agreed 7-0, Ald. Harney not voting.

#302-13(2) PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE, requesting the Chief of Police provide periodic updates to the Committee on the departmental review, completed in July 2013. [04/16/14 @ 1:10 PM]

ACTION: HELD 7-0, Ald. Harney not voting

NOTE: Docket items #302-13 and #302-13(2) were discussed together.

Chief Mintz joined the Committee for discussion on these items.

Committee members were provided with a detailed 45-day departmental review report, completed in July 2013. Chief Mintz's report includes culture/gender, discipline, training and the departmental bureau structure. The report includes observations/factual background, conclusions and action items to ensure that the department is being the most efficient.

The Subcommittee met over the past few months with Bob Rooney and Maureen Lemieux to review the Police Department needs to fully understand and analyze all facets and functions of the Police Department. Ald. Albright, Fuller, Ciccone, Lipof and Johnson have met with Chief Mintz to discuss his report and provide guidance. The intent of the Subcommittee was to bring to the Board of Aldermen recommendations as to the appropriate number of personnel necessary to staff the department while providing necessary services.

Committee members expressed their questions, requests and suggestions.

Questions

- Committee members asked how the City determines if the Police Department is succeeding?
- Committee members asked if Veterans apply to the department?

Requests

- Committee members requested that they be provided with a copy of the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agency (CALEA) report.
- Committee members requested the amount of funding provided by the Boston Athletic Association (BAA) to the City for Police Department coverage during the Boston Marathon.
- Committee members requested out-of-pocket expenses the Newton Police Department incurred to cover the Boston Marathon.

Suggestions

- Committee members suggested that discussion continue on the selection process of candidates with the Executive Department.
- Committee members suggested continue working with the Human Resources Director on performance evaluations, selection of specialist positions, grievances, performance metrics and selection of promotional positions.

Chief Mintz clarified and elaborated for Committee members sections of his report including accomplishments. He then noted that there are 481 standards to the process of being accredited. He feels that it is obvious the Police Department is succeeding or the department would not have been re-accredited. He then answered that two women veterans work in the department; the department does not receive many female applicants.

Committee members commended Chief Mintz for his diligence, experience, leadership, analysis and effort on his very detailed report and look forward to discussing this item in the future. Chief Mintz stated that he is proud to be Chief of the Police Department. A goal is to make the Newton Police Department a welcoming workplace where all employees can succeed.

The Police Department Staffing Study, which was attached to the agenda, was not discussed.

Ald. Yates made the motion to hold this item as suggested by Chair Ciccone allowing Chief Mintz the opportunity to attend future Public Safety & Transportation meetings to provide period updates perhaps several times per year. Committee members agreed 7-0, Ald. Harney not voting.

Taxi/Public Auto Contact InformationApril 6, 2015 Docket # 81-15
prepared by Officer Marini

This list reflects current information regarding business address and business phone as of 03/23/15

Company and Business Address	Contact and Business Phone	Medallion	Pass/Fail
Veterans Taxi of Newton, LLC. 224 Calvary Street Waltham, MA 02453	Michael Antonelis 781-693-5300 Other 781-693-5423 617-527-0300	Medallions 1-29,66-85(Total 49) PA 2,3,11,12 (Total 4)	PASS
Newton Yellow Cab, Inc. 25 Border St Newton, MA 02465	Richard Johnston 617-332-7700 Home 617-244-2464	Medallions 30-49 (Total 20)	PASS
Holden's Taxi, Inc. 50 Union St Newton, MA 02459	George Marry 617-244-2404	Medallions 59, 60, 61	PASS
Newtonville Cab Co., Inc. 50 Union St Newton, MA 02459	George Marry 617-244-2404	Medallions 54, 55	PASS
Newton Taxi Co. 50 Union St Newton, MA 02459	George Marry 617-244-2404	Medallions 56,57,58	PASS
Newton Luxury Cab 77 Cedar St Boston, MA 02119	Mohamed Saidi 617-293-4300 Other 781-812-8620	Medallion 65	PASS
Newton Town Taxi 4 Cedar St #405 Wellesley, MA 02481	Anis Lahiani 617-244-7444 Other 617-959-9924	Medallion 53	PASS
Newton Metro Cab 1359 Centre Street Newton, MA 02459	Ahcene Touri 617-332-8294 Other 617-947-2191 857-244-4959	Medallion 52	PASS
Beantown Carriage LLC PO Box 42 90 Oak St. 4 th floor Newton, MA 02464	Yekaterina Portnaya 617-828-5646 Other 617-594-5995 Cell 617-592-7879	PA 7	PASS

Crystal Lake Express 15 Moreland Ave Newton, MA 02459	Dorothy Dundas 617-510-0336 Other 617-244-5833	PA 6	PASS
Weldon Group, Inc. 253 Riverview Ave Newton MA 02466	Jerald Robbins 617-928-1888 Other 617-828-4990 978-535-0222	PA 4,5,9,10	PASS
Don's Car Service 395 Lexington Street Auburndale, MA 02466	Donald LaPlante 617-962-4446	PA 14 PA 15	PASS
Newton Car Service 12 Appleton Street Waltham, MA 02453	Hamdi Tlili 617-244-9044 Other 781-690-1477	PA 8	PASS
Newton Cab 72 Beaver Street, Waltham, MA 02453	Medhi Haoulani 617-332-1322 Other (? 509 or 508) 275-6198	Medallions 62, 63, 64	PASS

Board of Aldermen

2014-2015

CITY OF NEWTON

**PUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE MEETING NOTICE**

Dear Resident:

The Public Safety & Transportation Committee of the Board of Aldermen will be discussing the following item, which may be of interest to you, at its next meeting on Wednesday, April 8, 2015 at 7:45 pm in Room 205, Second Floor, City Hall. The meeting is open to the public and if you would like further information on the item, you are encouraged to attend.

- #115-14 FRAN KUEHN, 37 Fairfield Street, appealing the Approval of TC1-14 Traffic Council Decision on February 27, 2014: SGT. BABCOCK, requesting a parking restriction on Fairfield Street, to allow for emergency vehicle access. (Ward 2) [03/17/14 @ 4:10 PM]
HELD on 06/18/14, 5-0-1, (Cicccone abstaining, Schwartz not voting) on a 60-day trial to remove the no parking, any time, west side of Fairfield Street parking restriction approved by Traffic Council on 02/27/14.
HELD on 09/17/14, 5-0-1, (Harney abstaining, Cote not voting) to continue the trial for an additional 180-days to remove the no parking, anytime, west side of Fairfield Street parking restriction approved by Traffic Council on 02/27/14.

If you are unable to attend this meeting but would like to offer comments in writing for consideration, please forward your comments to the Office of the Clerk of the Board, 1000 Commonwealth Avenue, Newton Centre, 02459 or e-mail to Danielle Delaney at ddelaney@newtonma.gov by April 1, 2015 reflecting docket item number #115-14.

Sincerely,

Danielle Delaney
Committee Clerk
Public Safety & Transportation Committee

1000 Commonwealth Avenue ▪ Newton, MA 02459
617-796-1210 www.newtonma.gov

CITY OF NEWTONIN BOARD OF ALDERMENPUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2014

Present: Ald. Ciccone (Chair), Fuller, Lipof, Harney, Johnson, Yates and Cote

Absent: Ald. Schwartz

Also Present: Ald. Norton and Albright

City Staff: Sergeant Jay Babcock, Newton Police Department; William Paille, Director, Transportation Division; James Freas, Acting Director, Planning & Development and David Koses, Transportation Coordinator

Others Present: Jerome Grafe, Alternate Citizen Representative, Traffic Council

#115-14 FRAN KUEHN, 37 Fairfield Street, appealing the Approval of TC1-14 Traffic Council Decision on February 27, 2014: SGT. BABCOCK, requesting a parking restriction on Fairfield Street, to allow for emergency vehicle access. (Ward 2) [03/17/14 @ 4:10 PM]

HELD on 06/18/14, 5-0-1, Ald. Ciccone abstaining, Ald. Schwartz not voting on a 60-day trial to remove the no parking, any time, west side of Fairfield Street parking restriction approved by Traffic Council on 02/27/14.

ACTION: HELD 5-0-1, Ald. Harney abstaining, Ald. Cote not voting to continue the trial for an additional 180-days to remove the no parking, anytime, west side of Fairfield Street parking restriction approved by Traffic Council on 02/27/14.

NOTE: Mr. Kuehn, Sgt. Babcock and Ald. Norton joined the Committee for discussion on this item.

Chair Ciccone stated that this Committee implemented a trial in June 2014 with the understanding that residents would self-regulate their parking situations. Fourteen letters were mailed on September 2, 2014, inviting residents to this meeting. Zero correspondence has been received.

Sgt. Babcock stated that there was one main issue and a few minor bumps during this trial with residents parking side by side. He spoke with Ald. Norton who addressed his concern with the residents and rectified this situation. Sgt. Babcock expressed his concern of parking during the winter months and requested this trial continue until April 2015 to determine that the neighbors can in fact self-regulate ('police') their own street. Residents must use common sense for emergency vehicle access and 'staggered' parking is necessary. Residents must abide and will not park side by side. Safety is the first priority and emergency vehicles must have easy access.

Mr. Kuehn thanked the Committee for implementing this trial. He provided photos and a letter addressed to Fairfield Street residents informing them of the trial. Photos and letter are on file.

Without further discussion, Ald. Lipof made the motion to hold this item as suggested by Sgt. Babcock to continue the trial for an additional 180-days to remove the no parking anytime, west side of Fairfield Street parking restriction, approved by Traffic Council on 02/27/14. Committee members agreed 5-0-1, Ald. Harney abstaining and Ald. Cote not voting. Ald. Harney abstained because he was not present for the discussion.

Chair Ciccone stated he intends to discuss this trial in April 2015.

CITY OF NEWTONIN BOARD OF ALDERMENPUBLIC SAFETY & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 18, 2014

Present: Ald. Ciccone (Chair), Fuller, Cote, Lipof, Yates, Schwartz and Harney

Absent: Ald. Johnson

Also Present: Ald. Norton

City Staff: David Koses, Transportation Planner; Sgt. Jay Babcock and Chief Howard Mintz, Newton Police Department

#115-14 FRAN KUEHN, 37 Fairfield Street, appealing the Approval of TC1-14 Traffic Council Decision on February 27, 2014: SGT. BABCOCK, requesting a parking restriction on Fairfield Street, to allow for emergency vehicle access. (Ward 2) [03/17/14 @ 4:10 PM]

ACTION: **HELD 5-0-1, Ald. Ciccone abstaining, Ald. Schwartz not voting on a 60-day trial to remove the no parking, any time, west side of Fairfield Street parking restriction approved by Traffic Council on 02/27/14.**

NOTE: Ald. Norton, Mr. Koses and Sgt. Babcock joined the Committee for discussion on this item.

Mr. Koses provided Committee members with a PowerPoint presentation, attached to this report. Fairfield Street is 24 feet wide. Currently, there is a two-hour limit, 8am to 4pm school days except by a Newtonville Permit restriction along east side and a no parking anytime restriction along the west side – due to safety concerns. West side residents are allowed to park along the east side or on adjacent streets. Prior to the winter, the Police Department placed a temporary parking restriction on the east side of Fairfield Street due to emergency vehicle access difficulties. After thirteen days of observation, they noted that vehicles were not parking in a ‘staggered’ approach. As a result, the Police Department docketed an item for Traffic Council’s consideration requesting a permanent parking restriction be implemented. Traffic Council agreed with the Police Department that a permanent parking restriction was necessary for public safety reasons and agreed that residents can park on the east side of Fairfield Street or adjacent streets and approved a restriction of no parking, any time, west side of Fairfield Street.

Mr. Koses briefly described the Newtonville Neighborhood Parking District Plan. A goal in implementing and creating the comprehensive parking plan was to make parking restrictions more consistent by eliminating and regulating different parking restrictions.

Mr. Koses stated that Traffic Council usually limits parking to one side of streets with a width of less than 24 feet. The City is in the process of creating a citywide parking policy on streets that are 24 feet wide perhaps implementing a one-side parking restriction to provide consistency.

Sgt. Babcock said that after the Newtonville Neighborhood Parking District Plan was implemented, neighbors complained that vehicles were parked on both sides of Fairfield Street making it difficult for emergency vehicle access, especially fire trucks. The Police Department placed a temporary parking restriction on the east side of Fairfield Street after thirteen days of observation and noted that vehicles are not parking in a 'staggered' approach. He said that he docketed an item for Traffic Council's consideration because of safety concerns, challenges and complaints received due to the difficulties for emergency vehicle access. He then said that no complaints have been received since parking was removed on the west side of Fairfield Street.

Chair Ciccone opened the discussion to members of the public who were present. Fran Kuehn, petitioner spoke in favor of removing the permanent parking restriction of no parking, any time, west side of Fairfield Street approved by Traffic Council. He said that since the Police Department removed parking, approximately ten months ago it has been difficult parking on the west side and crossing with children. It is unsafe and concerning. He then said the residents of the street signed the appeal petition supporting and requesting that Traffic Council's decision be overturned. There are fourteen single-family owner occupied homes. He then said that residents agree safety and emergency vehicle access are necessary. Mr. Kuehn stated that residents agree to 'stagger' parking, will use their driveways, and request that guests do the same. Residents would like to be able to park in front of their homes on weekends and at night. Mr. Kuehn then said that since the Newtonville Neighborhood Parking District Plan was implemented, there are fewer vehicles parking on Fairfield Street. One resident agreed with Mr. Kuehn and said that he has never observed emergency vehicles having access difficulties. He made a suggestion to restrict parking from the corners.

Chair Ciccone said that administratively the Department of Public Works could restrict parking up to 50 feet from the corners.

Committee members and Ald. Norton discussed this request and expressed their concerns, questions and comments.

Concerns:

- A citywide parking policy may not be appropriate, unless the demand for on-street parking is low and such a policy may negatively impact all.
- It is concerning, residents refused to move their vehicles when requested by the Police Department. How will residents be able to self-regulate ('police') their own street? Residents should use common sense for emergency vehicle access and 'staggered' parking are necessary.
- Committee members realize it is an inconvenience, but should not be difficult to cross the street with children because Fairfield Street is not a busy street with minimal traffic.

Questions:

- Committee members asked if each home had a driveway. Mr. Koses answered yes.
- Are Newton North students parking up the area. Mr. Koses briefly described the resident and student Tiger Permit programs. He said that 150 Tiger Permits are issued to students costing \$25.00 per year, allowing them to park on Hull Street, Lowell Avenue and the Austin Street parking lot.
- What is the width of a fire truck and how many times do they not have access to a street 24 feet wide due to parked vehicles parking on both sides? Sgt. Babcock answered that an

engine truck is 10 feet wide, including mirrors. A ladder truck is wider. He estimates that in the past three years, approximately fire trucks did not have access ten times.

Comments:

- A suggestion was made to distribute the neighborhood with 'flyers' as an education measure prior to the Police Department placing temporary parking restrictions. Sgt. Babcock answered this was not the departments' responsibility.

Ald. Fuller made suggestions to Committee members including a trial to be conducted, restrict parking from the corners and suggested that the Police Department and the Ward Aldermen observe how residents are parking. She said that it appears these residents are educated and motivated and she is hopeful they can self-regulate their street. Ald. Fuller then stated that if a trial is implemented; does not work it would be eliminated. Ald. Norton agreed.

Sgt. Babcock said that he would be fine with residents 'policing' themselves. The restriction was placed because of safety concerns. He then stated to the public and Committee members that if the Police Department has to return to Fairfield Street due to an issue, the emergency restriction will be implemented again. The Police Department will not be knocking on doors. Committee members agreed. Chair Ciccone stated to the public that he realizes it may be inconvenient to some that they have to move barrels, etc. to park but vehicles must be parked 'staggered' to accommodate emergency vehicle access.

Chair Ciccone said that this Committee has the authority on appeal items to hold a maximum of a 60-day trial.

Without further discussion, Ald. Fuller made the motion to hold this appeal for a 60-day trial to remove the no parking, any time, west side of Fairfield Street to allow parking on both sides of the street and requested that administratively the Department of Public Works restrict parking up to 50 feet from the corners. She then suggested that the Police Department conduct directed patrols and the Ward Aldermen observe how residents are parking. Committee members agreed 5-0-1, Ald. Ciccone abstained because in Traffic Council he voted in favor of a parking restriction. Ald. Schwartz was not present when voting.

Chair Ciccone stated he intends to discuss this trial in September 2014. Sgt. Babcock agreed to provide a report on this trial.

115-14

8 3 03

Appeal of TC-1-14

Fairfield Street Parking Restriction

Existing Conditions

115-14



Current Restriction

- Red = 2-Hr Limit 8am - 4pm School Days Except by Newtonville Permit
- Purple = Parking by Newtonville Permit Only 8am-4pm School Days
- Black = No Parking any time

No Parking West Side (Temporary by Order of Police)

#115-14

Photos



5

#115-14

Recommendation Presented at Traffic Council

115-14



6