

CITY OF NEWTON

IN BOARD OF ALDERMEN

TRAFFIC COUNCIL REPORT

THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 2003

Present: Candace Havens (Chair) Nina Wang (Acting Traffic Engineer) Ald. Samuelson, (Aldermanic Appointee) Captain Sbordone (Police) Evelyn Addante (Planning) Rosalie Myers (Clerk)

Also Present: Ald. Bryson, Ald. Johnson

#224-02 ALD. JOHNSON, on behalf of residents of Leonard Avenue requesting one-hour parking restriction from 7 am to 4 pm Monday through Friday on LEONARD AVENUE. (Ward 2)

ACTION: APPROVED 5-0

NOTE: Ald. Johnson addressed the Committee and explained that residents had called her regarding parking problems on Leonard Avenue that have resulted from student parking. The heavy snow this year along with student parking has made it virtually impossible to get down the street. Nina Wang agreed with Ald. Johnson that there are parking problems on Leonard Avenue. All of the surrounding streets do have restrictions. Ms. Wang recommended parking restrictions that would match those on Greylock Road.

Mary Jane Suzman of 14 Leonard Avenue expressed concern for emergency vehicles entering and exiting Leonard Avenue with cars parked on both sides of the street. She said UPS as well as sanding trucks had difficulty on the street. Also present at the Council meeting to support this petition were Martha Volpe, 29 Leonard Avenue, Elaine Inker, 17 Leonard Avenue, and Emily Kuvin, 24 Leonard Avenue.

Ald. Samuelson made a motion for a two hour parking restriction on Leonard Avenue from 7 am to 1 pm, both sides when school is in session. The Committee voted 5-0 in favor.

#265-02 ALD. BRYSON transmitting on behalf of Auburn Street residents a request for NO PARKING ANYTIME on the north side of Auburn Street from Commonwealth Avenue easterly at distance to be determined. (Ward 4)

ACTION: APPROVED 5-0

NOTE: Ald. Bryson began the discussion by explaining that there was a petition filed with 10 signatures along with other support for a parking restriction on the north of Auburn Street going westerly to Commonwealth Avenue. Cars were parking there from other area businesses as well as Lunny's Service Station. When the petition was filed, Mr. Lunny was in support. Nina Wang does recommend a restriction on the north side of Auburn Street for a distance of approximately 188 ft.

A letter was read to the Committee from Don Lunny who was not able to be present. The letter stated that Mr. Lunny was now in opposition to the proposed banning of parking along Auburn Street and is in favor of allowing parking on Auburn Street.

A letter received from apartment building owner Michael Iodice supports approval of the restriction as long as there is access for emergency vehicles.

Mr. Gerard Boyce, past President of the Auburndale Community Association, and a resident of Oakland Road sent a letter stating many reasons for restricted parking on the north side of Auburn Street.

Ald. Samuelson moved a parking restriction on the north side of Auburn Street for 188 ft. from the intersection of Commonwealth Avenue. The Committee voted 5-0 in favor.

#265-02(2) ALD. BRYSON on behalf of the abutters and neighbors of Auburn Street, Auburndale requesting discussion and possible rescission or further amendment of Section 19-176, as amended, as it relates to AUBURN STREET sub-section (1)b, (No Parking south side, from Woodland Road westerly to Commonwealth Avenue). (Ward 4)

ACTION: HELD 5-0

NOTE: Ald. Bryson explained that Nina Wang found parking restrictions on the books that had to be enforced. One concern Ald. Bryson had was that removal of the restrictions could cause a problem with commuters using the area to park.

Nina Wang explained the missing parking signs that are in the ordinance book have now been replaced. Three site visits were made that showed no cars parked in that area. On the north side, there are no restrictions. The street is 28 ft. wide with the narrowest section measuring 24 ft. Recent traffic studies do not show cars parking in that location. Ms. Wang felt

parked cars help to eliminate speeding problems and she does support a restriction, at least on one side of the street.

Jim Stewart of 497 Auburn Street said he felt there should be no parking on either side from Woodbine Terrace easterly because the street is very narrow.

Judy Saxe of 570 Auburn Street testified the turn on Evergreen has been dangerous. She is against the signs on Auburn Street and feels this has been a problem for herself, friends and family visiting. Her husband, Mr. Adelson, would like to see the portion of Auburn Street directly in front of their town house have no restriction or limited time restriction. Daniel Corbett of 14 Evergreen Avenue said parking on the street causes site line problems and feels there should be no parking. In his opinion there should be no parking. Jon Miller of 15 Evergreen Avenue said he felt parking on the street causes a hazard. Mr. Boyce, past President of the Auburndale Community Association, and a resident of Oakland Road sent a letter stating the restrictions now on the south side need to remain. The Land Use Special Permit for Auburn Woods does show the available parking on site for the townhouses and that site plan is on file.

Both Candace Havens and Ald. Samuelson felt the item should be held. The Committee agreed to hold the item for 60 days.

Respectfully submitted,
Rosalie Myers, Clerk