

FINAL

The Traffic Committee meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Lower Level Conference Room of Troy City Hall on January 17, 2001 by Michael Palchesko.

1. **Roll Call**

PRESENT: Jan Hubbell  
Richard Kilmer  
David Lambert  
John Diefenbaker  
Ted Halsey  
Michael Palchesko

ABSENT: Charles Solis

Also present were the following:

4. Ramona Allison, 2626 Rainbow Drive  
Jerry Meade, 3034 Waterfall Drive
  
6. Chris Murray, 528 Longfellow  
Bill Murray, 528 Longfellow  
Rob Schoenfeldt, 514 Longfellow  
Linda Schoenfeldt, 514 Longfellow  
Officer Dan Clark, Troy Police
  
- 10-12. Valerie Talia, 1612 Milverton  
Vincent Talia, 1624 Milverton  
Victor Talia, 1636 Milverton
  
13. Kevin O'Neill, 1363 Larayne
  
14. Jeff Kahan, K-5 Associates, 570-580 Kirts
  
- and Lt. Robert Rossman, Police Department  
Lt. Robert Matlick, Fire Department  
John Abraham, Traffic Engineer  
Lori Grigg Bluhm, Asst. City Attorney  
David Allen, Student Member

**Motion to Excuse**

Motion by Kilmer  
Supported by Hubbell

To excuse Mr. Solis.

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

**Welcome to David Allen**

On behalf of the Traffic Committee, Mr. Palchesko welcomed the new student representative to the meeting. David Allen is a student at Troy High School and will serve as a non-voting member of the Committee until June of 2001.

**2. Minutes – November 15, 2000**

Motion by Diefenbaker  
Supported by Hubbell

That the minutes of November 15, 2000 be accepted as printed.

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

**3. Visitors' Time**

No visitors attended to address items not on the agenda.

**Motion to Take Items Out of Order**

Motion by Hubbell  
Supported by Kilmer

To take Item 6 before Item 5.

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

**4. Install NO PARKING Signs on Waterfall Street Median near Big Beaver**

Mr. William Maher of 4165 Ramblewood requests that the median opening on Waterfall just north of Big Beaver be posted NO PARKING. Mr. Maher feels it creates a lot of confusion with cars parking/pulling out of these parking spots and it is also a traffic hazard, since the vehicles parked in the median area of the roadway are close to the travel lanes. He feels that this area should not be a parking area and that it should be left as a no parking zone. Waterfall Street serves as the entrance to a large subdivision to the north and traffic volumes on the street are significant. It is also not standard practice to park vehicles on a median opening.

Ramona Allison, 2626 Rainbow, is against this proposal. She said that if cars park on the sides of the street they would be more in the way. She has had guests' cars parked there hit by motorists whipping around the corner.

Jerry Meade, 3034 Waterfall, said that he and many of his neighbors have multiple cars and inadequate driveway space for parking. Parking three cars in a driveway would obstruct the sidewalk, and he would like to see parking in the median continued.

Mr. Diefenbaker said that this area was designated NO PARKING years ago, but within a few months the decision was made to allow parking again. He is opposed to the change.

Motion by Halsey  
Supported by Kilmer

To recommend no changes.

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

**6. Remove NO RIGHT TURN EXCEPT BUSES Sign on Leonard School Driveway**

In June of 1997, in an effort to improve traffic congestion and safety at Leonard School, the Traffic Committee recommended, and subsequently the Council approved, installation of a sign indicating "NO RIGHT TURN FROM 8:00-9:00 AM AND 3:15-3:45 PM EXCEPT BUSES" on Leonard School driveway at Tallman. The Troy Police Department and the Traffic Engineering office have performed several studies to improve traffic flow near the school. There is very high congestion in the

parking lot during arrival and dismissal time of the school. Some of the congestion may be due to the turn restrictions, since all traffic has to make a left turn exiting the parking lot. Officer Dan Clark has requested removal of this sign.

Bill Murray, 528 Longfellow, is opposed to removing the NO RIGHT TURN (NRT) signs. Before the signs were installed, children had difficulty crossing Tallman at Longfellow. Mr. Murray stated that 3 out of 4 motorists disregard the NRT signs anyway. Mrs. Murray said that she once stood on the curb waiting for 15 minutes to cross Tallman because of traffic volume and overly cautious safety patrol students. She also said that most of the children who could be walking to school are driven by their parents, thus adding to vehicular congestion. Mrs. Murray feels that an adult crossing guard would help, but the school board has not taken steps to obtain one. Lt. Rossman and Officer Clark are in agreement, and the Lieutenant offered to talk to school officials. It may take quite a long time to hire and train an adult crossing guard.

Linda Schoenfeldt of 514 Longfellow said that she has problems getting out of her driveway because of heavy traffic on Tallman.

Dr. Abraham has drafted a plan to revise the school parking lot to separate the pickup/dropoff area from the parking area. This would enhance safety as well as help alleviate gridlock at arrival and dismissal times. The principal, Dr. Long, is in agreement, but the plan would have to be approved by the Board of Education.

Mr. Diefenbaker suggested creating an exit-only driveway on vacant property to the south of the school. It was determined that this would not be feasible because the area is swampy and is a protected wetland.

Motion by Halsey

Supported by Lambert

To recommend that the NO RIGHT TURN times at at the Leonard School driveway be adjusted, at the direction of the Traffic Engineer, and that the Traffic Engineer meet with school officials to discuss changes to the parking/pickup/dropoff areas at the school.

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

Motion by Hubbell

Supported by Diefenbaker

To recommend asking Lt. Rossman to work with the school board to try to facilitate hiring of an adult crossing guard. The Traffic Committee strongly recommends a crossing guard at this location.

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

**5. Install YIELD SIGN on Eastbound Plaid at Heatherbrook**

By means of the attached letter to the City, Mr. James Meinershagen, 4657 Heatherbrook, has requested the installation of a YIELD sign on eastbound Plaid at Heatherbrook. Mr. Meinershagen is the president of the Scott Land's Subdivision that was opened to the Robertson Brothers Carlson Development via Plaid Street, which has experienced an increase in traffic. The request for the signage is to avoid confusion as to who has the right of way when traffic arrives simultaneously at this intersection. At the intersection, Plaid ends in a "T" intersection at Heatherbrook. Heatherbrook also is the major roadway at the intersection since it carries more traffic. No major sight obstructions were observed at the intersection.

Mr. Halsey is in favor of installing the YIELD sign to assign right of way.

Motion by Halsey

Supported by Diefenbaker

To recommend installation of a YIELD SIGN on Plaid at Heatherbrook.

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

**PUBLIC HEARINGS****7. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 1611 Milverton, Section 25**

Mr. Roger Leebove of Olympus-Orion, LLC, is requesting a waiver for the sidewalk at 1611 Milverton. The subdivision has no sidewalks existing. Olympus-Orion, LLC has submitted a cash deposit for future construction to assure consent and participation if there is future sidewalk installation.

*The Public Hearing was declared open.*

No one appeared to address this issue.

*The Public Hearing was declared closed.*

Resolution #2001-1  
Motion by Diefenbaker  
Supported by Halsey

WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, Section 8 (D), allows the Traffic Committee to grant temporary waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Roger Leebove has requested a temporary waiver of the requirement to construct a sidewalk on the property line because the subdivision has no sidewalks existing.

WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined the following:

- a. A variance will not impair the public health, safety, or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area; and
- b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and
- c. The construction of a new sidewalk on the property line would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way,

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee grants a temporary one-year waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 1611 Milverton which is owned by Olympus-Orion, LLC.

YEAS: 5

NAYS: 1 (Kilmer)

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

**8. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 1623 Milverton, Section 25**

Mr. Roger Leebove of Olympus-Orion, LLC is requesting a waiver for the sidewalk for 1623 Milverton in Section 25. The subdivision has no sidewalks existing. Olympus-Orion, LLC has submitted a cash deposit for future construction to assure consent and participation if there is future sidewalk installation.

*The Public Hearing was declared open.*

No one appeared to address this issue.

*The Public Hearing was declared closed.*

Resolution #2001-2  
Motion by Diefenbaker  
Supported by Lambert

WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, Section 8 (D), allows the Traffic Committee to grant temporary waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Roger Leebove has requested a temporary waiver of the requirement to construct a sidewalk on the property line because the subdivision has no sidewalks existing.

WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined the following:

- a. A variance will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and
- b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and
- c. The preponderance of adjoining lots or parcels are already developed without sidewalks existing and that the construction of a sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee grants a temporary one-year waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 1623 Milverton which is owned by Olympus-Orion, LLC.

YEAS: 5

NAYS: 1 (Kilmer)

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

**9. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 1635 Milverton, Section 25**

Mr. Roger Leebove of Olympus-Orion, LLC is requesting a waiver for the sidewalk at 1635 Milverton in Section 25. The subdivision has no sidewalks existing. Olympus-Orion, LLC has submitted a cash deposit for future construction to assure consent and participation if there is future sidewalk installation.

*The Public Hearing was declared open.*

No one appeared to address this issue.

*The Public Hearing was declared closed.*

Resolution #2001-3

Motion by Diefenbaker

Supported by Lambert

WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, Section 8 (D), allows the Traffic Committee to grant temporary waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Roger Leebove has requested a temporary waiver of the requirement to construct a sidewalk on the property line because the subdivision has no sidewalks existing.

WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined the following:

- (a) A variance will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and
- (b) A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and

- (c) The preponderance of adjoining lots or parcels are already developed without sidewalks existing and that the construction of a sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee grants a temporary one-year waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 1635 Milverton which is owned by Olympus-Orion, LLC.

YEAS: 5

NAYS: 1 (Kilmer)

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

**10. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 1636 Milverton, Section 25**

Victor Talia is requesting a waiver for the sidewalk at 1636 Milverton. Petitioner has executed an Agreement for Irrevocable Petition for Sidewalks. Vicki Cerven-Astell, 1653 Milverton, wrote to the Traffic Engineering office stating that she and her husband agree to the request for a waiver of sidewalk requirements at this address.

*The Public Hearing was declared open.*

Mr. Talia requested that the Committee approve this waiver.

*The Public Hearing was declared closed.*

Resolution #2001-4  
Motion by Diefenbaker  
Supported by Halsey

WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, Section 8 (D), allows the Traffic Committee to grant temporary waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

WHEREAS, Victor Talia has requested a temporary waiver of the requirement to construct a sidewalk on the property line because there is no existing sidewalk which connects on both sides to other sidewalks,

WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined the following:

- a. A variance will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and

- b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and
- c. The preponderance of adjoining lots or parcels are already developed without sidewalks existing and that the construction of a sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee grants a temporary one-year waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 1636 Milverton, which is owned by Victor Talia.

YEAS: 5

NAYS: 1 (Kilmer)

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

**11. Request for Sidewalk Waiver - 1624 Milverton, Section 25.**

Vincent Talia is requesting a waiver for the sidewalk at 1624 Milverton. Petitioner has executed an Agreement for Irrevocable Petition for Sidewalks. Vicki Cerven-Astell, 1653 Milverton, wrote to the Traffic Engineering office stating that she and her husband agree to the request for a waiver of sidewalk requirements at this address.

*The Public Hearing was declared open.*

Mr. Talia requested that the Committee approve the waiver.

*The Public Hearing was declared closed.*

Resolution #2001-5

Motion by

Supported by

WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, Section 8 (D), allows the Traffic Committee to grant temporary waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

WHEREAS, Vincent Talia has requested a temporary waiver of the requirement to construct a sidewalk on the property line because there is no existing sidewalk which connects on both sides to other sidewalks,

WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined the following:

- a. A variance will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and
- b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and
- c. The preponderance of adjoining lots or parcels are already developed without sidewalks existing and that the construction of a sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee grants a temporary one-year waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 1624 Milverton, which is owned by Vincent Talia.

YEAS: 5

NAYS: 1 (Kilmer)

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

**12. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 1612 Milverton, Section 25**

Valerie Talia is requesting a waiver for the sidewalk at 1612 Milverton. Petitioner has executed an Agreement for Irrevocable Petition for Sidewalks. Vicki Cerven-Astell, 1653 Milverton, wrote to the Traffic Engineering office stating that she and her husband agree to the request for a waiver of sidewalk requirements at this address.

*The Public Hearing was declared open.*

Valerie Talia stated that the existing homes on Milverton are much older and there are no sidewalks. There are also wide ditches which would make sidewalk installation difficult.

Also, if sidewalks were to be installed on the east side of Milverton, they would dead-end at a fence enclosing church property to the north of the lots.

*The Public Hearing was declared closed.*

Resolution 2001-6  
Motion by Diefenbaker  
Supported by Halsey

WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, Section 8 (D), allows the Traffic Committee to grant temporary waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

WHEREAS, Valerie Talia has requested a temporary waiver of the requirement to construct a sidewalk on the property line because there is no existing sidewalk which connects on both sides to other sidewalks,

WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined the following:

- a. A variance will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and
- b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and
- c. That the preponderance of adjoining lots or parcels are already developed without sidewalks existing and that the construction of a sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee grants a temporary one-year waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 1612 Milverton, which is owned by Valerie Talia.

YEAS: 5

NAYS: 1 (Kilmer)

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. Kilmer stated that the reason for his objections to granting all of the waivers on Milverton is that past practice has required sidewalks to be installed where three or more homes are built adjacent to each other.

**13. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 1363 Larayne, Section 11**

Kevin and Natalia O'Neill are requesting a waiver for the sidewalk at 1363 Larayne. Petitioners have executed an Agreement for Irrevocable Petition for Sidewalks. The Traffic Committee has received a letter from George and Ruth Craig, 1383 Larayne, who have no objection to the waiver of sidewalk requirement

*The Public Hearing was declared open.*

Kevin O'Neill attended the meeting to reiterate his request for a waiver. There are no other sidewalks adjacent to his property.

No one else appeared to address this issue.

*The Public Hearing was declared closed.*

Resolution #2001-7  
Motion by Kilmer  
Supported by Hubbell

WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, Section 8 (D), allows the Traffic Committee to grant temporary waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

WHEREAS, Kevin and Natalia O'Neill have requested a temporary waiver of the requirement to construct a sidewalk on the property line because there is no existing sidewalk which connects on both sides to other sidewalks,

WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined the following:

- a. A variance will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and
- b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and
- c. The preponderance of adjoining lots or parcels are already developed without sidewalks existing and that the construction of a sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee grants a temporary one-year waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 1363 Larayne, which is owned by Kevin and Natalia O'Neill.

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

**14. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 570-580 Kirts Blvd. – Section 28**

K-5 Associates request a waiver for the sidewalk at 570-580 Kirts Blvd. and have executed an Agreement for Irrevocable Petition for Sidewalks.

*The Public Hearing was declared open.*

Mr. Jeff Kahan appeared on behalf of K-5 Associates. He explained that sidewalks have already been installed along the Kirts side of the property, but he is requesting the waiver for the Lowrey side. Lowrey is an unpaved road, and the City plans to vacate it.

*The Public Hearing was declared closed.*

Resolution #2001-8  
Motion by Kilmer  
Supported by Diefenbaker

WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, Section 8 (D), allows the Traffic Committee to grant temporary waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

WHEREAS, K-5 Associates have requested a temporary waiver of the requirement to construct a sidewalk on the property line because there is no existing sidewalk which connects on both sides to other sidewalks,

WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined the following:

- a. A variance will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and
- b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and
- c. Construction of a sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Traffic Committee grants a temporary one-year waiver of the sidewalk requirement for the property at 570-580 Kirts Blvd., which is owned by K-5 Associates.

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1

MOTION CARRIED

**15. Other Business**

Ordinances to amend Chapter 34, 35 and 106 of the Code of the City of Troy.

Motion by Hubbell

Supported by Kilmer

To approve the Code revisions regarding the Traffic Committee procedures for processing sidewalk waivers.

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1

**MOTION CARRIED**

Mr. Halsey asked about having Hartland, Rochester to Livernois, designated as a fire route while Big Beaver is being widened. This would prohibit parking on both sides of Hartland. Dr. Abraham has discussed the matter with Fire Chief Nelson, and it was decided to use Hartland for fire trucks, if necessary, but not to restrict parking. The plan for Big Beaver is to have two lanes in each direction open at all times.

Mr. Halsey would like to see a signal at Martell School. This was requested previously, but Oakland County rejected the request. All Martell students are eligible to ride the school bus. The City had also suggested three lanes at the school driveway, a left-turn lane, a right turn lane and a through lane. The school district never acted on that idea.

Mr. Halsey and Mr. Diefenbaker have noticed that NO PARKING signs recently installed on Virginia have been damaged or removed. DPW will be notified to replace them.

Regarding Athens High School, the Planning Commission has approved the new driveway for St. Petka Church only, on Wattles near Athens. It did not approve a combined driveway for the church and Athens High School.

Mr. Diefenbaker asked about installing additional lanes on northbound Coolidge at South Boulevard. He would like to see the City acquire property at that intersection and create a right turn lane and a left turn lane to relieve congestion in the area. Dr. Abraham will consult with the Engineering Department to determine if funds could be made available for this.

**16. Adjourn**

Motion by Halsey  
Supported by Hubbell

To adjourn the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

YEAS: 6

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: 1

**MOTION CARRIED**