

**CITY OF ONEIDA  
MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD**

July 16, 2024  
2:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS:**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Chairman Bruce Burke	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Vice-Chairman Donald White	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Barbara Buehner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Kathy Malinowski	<input type="checkbox"/>
James Sweet	<input type="checkbox"/>
Erwin Smith	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brahim Zogby	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Michael Geer	<input type="checkbox"/>
Brian Bortree	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gary Laureti	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**ADVISORS:**

Public Safety Commissioner Dave Jones	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police Chief Steven Lowell	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fire Department Assistant Chief Dennis Relyea	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
City Engineer Jeff Rowe	<input type="checkbox"/>
Traffic Advisor Shawn Palmer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police Lieutenant Ryan Warner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**OTHER PRESENT:**

Vincent Bailey  
John Monaghan

The regular meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chairman Bruce Burke.

Approval of April 16, 2024, Meeting Minutes Distributed for Review Prior to July 16, 2024, Meeting

Moved by: Dave Jones  
Seconded by: Brian Bortree

**RESOLVED** that the minutes of the regular meeting of April 16, 2024, are hereby approved as presented.

Ayes: 6  
Nays: 0  
Abstain: 0  
Absent: 4 (Malinowski, Sweet, Smith, & Geer)

**MOTION CARRIED**

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **❖ Overnight Parking on Allen Park Pl**

Brahim wanted to revisit the topic due to missing the last meeting and wanted to present some new information he discovered. Brahim asked who had driven down the road and several members said they had. He let everyone know that all houses on the street all have access to a driveway, 1 was a shared driveway, contrary to what was said at the last meeting. Some residents of the houses choose to park in the road or use the driveway for camper storage but have access to a driveway. Brahim asked if the city should offer year-round street parking for those who don't want to use their driveway. Lt. Warner let the Board know that he drove down the street earlier in the day and that while some driveways are shared or small, all houses have a driveway. Gary Laureti asked if we knew why that road had the bump out, and no one knew why it was installed in the first place. AC Relyea agreed with the Board that Allen Park Place was a small narrow road and that the Fire Department would always prefer no street parking to make sure there is room for the trucks to get down roads. Melissa let the Board know that she emailed Nadine (the city attorney) after the meeting but has not heard back. Nadine was on vacation and then Brahim had expressed a desire to revisit this topic, so no change has occurred since the last meeting. There was a discussion on parking on side streets and how parking has historically been enforced. Owners should be aware of the parking when they buy the house and should make other arrangements if needed. The Board agreed to table changing the local law until the next meeting. They will reach out to residents and talk to them about their parking situations.

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **1. Right Hand Turning Lane by Oneida Hospital (Chief Lowell)**

#### **Discussion:**

The area that we are discussing is Fields Dr. on the south side of Rt 5 going into the hospital parking lot. Lt. Warner gave more context on this issue that the road currently has white hash marks on the shoulder indicating that it is a no driving on the shoulder area. The hospital would like to turn those hashmarks into a dedicated right hand turn only lane. Lt Warner also said that that area is a hot spot for vehicle rear ends and side swipes coming down the hill. Rt 5 is a State controlled road, and the Traffic Safety Board cannot make any changes. We will send a letter to the business recommending they reach out to the State Department of Transportation.

### **2. No parking sign replacement on Madison St. (Vincent Bailey)**

#### **Discussion:**

Vincent Bailey was present to present his case. Shawn Palmer let the Board know that the sign in question had been removed years ago after being knocked down and due to various reasons was delayed in being replaced. When replaced this year as part of a training from Bob Anderson prior to his retirement the signs were placed on the wrong side of the road. The signs have since been corrected. Mr. Bailey inquired about who authorized the sign replacement. There was no authorization from the Board because that was a replacement, and the sign was supposed to be there. Mr. Bailey inquired about the spots that were 'removed' and if it was necessary. AC Relyea stated that the

spots removed were not because of the needed turning radius for their trucks. Mr. Bailey would like to add an additional parking spot to help maximize parking for the 4 businesses that rent from his building. Brahim and Shawn confirmed that parking spaces have to be a standard size (roughly 22ft) as well as a certain distance from corners and they weren't sure if there was room there to add a 4<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Bailey asked about changing the parking delineation from individual spaces to a plain parking lane like larger cities have. Dave Jones agreed that those parking lanes work in larger cities because they have to pay to park there, but Oneida does not have any pay for parking areas. The city wants to boost businesses and has no plans to charge to park downtown, nor ticket excessively in the downtown area. The signs were left unreplaced for so long as the budget for signs is only so large and other signs took precedence. Madison St. does not have their parking signs marked as the road is set to be top coated next year and will be marked following that. Dave Jones agreed that the process to change any parking spots is a lengthy one and the Traffic Safety Board will look into the spots and regulations. All of Madison St. is 2-hour parking only, but there are plenty of other parking areas around the building (Main St., Railroad St. Oneida St., Vanderbilt Parking Lot, Clinch Park Parking Lot, etc.). Dave Jones reiterated that the Traffic Safety Board will look into the parking issues in the area to help businesses, but at this point the signs on Madison St. are correct. No action is being taken right now, but the issue will be tabled until the next meeting in October.

### 3. Speed Limit Sign on Sylvan St. (Melissa Elias)

#### Discussion:

Lt. Warner let everyone know that no side street in Oneida has speed limit signs and if the road is not marked with a sign the speed is 30 miles per hour. The only side street marked is Allen Park Place with a 25-mph sign. Sylvan Street is typically busier during the school year when people are trying to circumvent the school. Lt Warner said that we can conduct a speed study in that area until the next meeting.

Moved by: Barbara Buehner

Seconded by: Dave Jones

**RESOLVED**, that, after discussion, a speed trailer and traffic speed study will be conducted on Sylvan St.

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Abstain: 0

Absent: 4 (Malinowski, Sweet, Smith, & Geer)

### 4. Stop Ahead Road Painting at W. Walnut & Broad St. (Joe Todd)

#### Discussion:

Melissa clarified what Mr. Todd was asking for (Stop Ahead painted on all 4 roads leading into that intersection) and Bruce asked if this type of signage was anywhere else in the city. It was confirmed that the city does not have this signage. There was a discussion on the cost and time it would take to paint these as well as the precedence it would create around the city. Lt. Warner said that typically this intersection has not

had a high record of accidents. Studies have shown that those painted signs show a prevention of accidents but will not prevent any rolling stops. The police department will increase patrols in the area, but no signs will be painted on the roads.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### ❖ North Broad Street Elementary School Building

##### Discussion:

North Broad Street Elementary School closed down at the end of the 2023-2024 school year and there was a question about what will be happening with the cross walk and signage around the building. Dave Jones recommended leaving all the signs as the building as the school district and BOCES signed a multiyear lease and will have different students and faculty in that building. There will actually be more faculty and employees in that building and he anticipates there will be more parking issues at the building as the parking lot is limited.

Next Meeting Tuesday October 15, 2024, at 2:00pm

Motion to adjourn by: Barbara Buehner

Seconded by: Brahim Zogby

The meeting is hereby adjourned at 3:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melissa Luck  
Traffic Safety Board Secretary