

**CITY OF ONEIDA
TRAFFIC SAFETY BOARD**

August 22, 2023
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 type="checkbox"/>
Douglas Lippert	<input type="checkbox"/>
Kathy Malinowski	<input type="checkbox"/>
James Sweet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Gary Hamer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Erwin Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Brahim Zogby	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Michael Geer	<input type="checkbox"/>

ADVISORS:

Public Safety Commissioner Kevin Salerno	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police Chief Steven Lowell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fire Department Deputy Chief Rob Cowles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
City Engineer Jeff Rowe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Traffic Advisor Robert Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Police Sergeant Micheal Burgess	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

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

OLD BUSINESS

- ❖ Traffic Barrier at Railroad Tracks on Sturm Rd (from Cobb St)

Discussion:

Bob Anderson gave an update on what has been going on at the end of Sturm Rd. He talked to CSX again and they are going to put 2 gates up at the location to keep people and vehicles off the tracks. He is also talking to Nadine Bell to get the City to give CSX a right of way off Sturm Road in writing. She is going to contact Cornell from CSX to work out all the legal requirements.

AGENDA ITEMS

Sgt. Micheal Burgess from the Police Department came to the meeting to discuss concerns from the public that were brought to the Police Departments attention. In 2021 the Police Department received grant funding to target violent crimes throughout the city as part of the Rural Violent Crime Reduction Initiative (RVCRI). With assistance from the Central New York Crime Analysis Center the Police Department located 3 areas called hot spots where over the last 5 years the majority of these violent crimes have occurred. For the last 3 months officers have been going to these areas on special patrols to talk to businesses, residents, and everyone that they encounter to discuss any concerns they may have. Those concerns have been compiled and passed to all relevant departments within the city that may help;

Codes, DPW, Fire, Planning, and Parks and Recreation. This has been a full city involvement with this project and the Traffic Safety Board is the next step.

1. 125 Main St. (by Gates Cole Insurance)

a. Better "One Way" signage by Phelps St.

Discussion: Bob Anderson let the Board know that there is already a State DOT approved sign in place there. There are signs along the street and at the entrances onto that street. There really are no other options to put in place.

2. 121 Madison St. (by Thompson Appliances)

a. Freighthouse Alley needs better One Way Only signage

Discussion: Bob Anderson said that there is already a State DOT approved sign in place. There are "No Entrance" signs in place at the end of Freighthouse Alley and "No Right Turn" signs along the road letting people not to turn the wrong way on the road. The only options would be to add more signs and that would require the DPW to place them in the sidewalk and that gets difficult and costly with the sidewalk maintenance. It was decided that the signs in place are fairly sufficient as they are.

3. 119 Main St. (Better Hearing)

a. Paint the Handicap Spot on the Road and cut the curb

Discussion: Bob let everyone know he already painted the spot on the road.

4. 117 E. Railroad St (Happy 2 Assist)

a. Remove 1 handicap spot in front of the old skating rink

Discussion: There are currently 2 handicap spots in that area, when they were put in the curb was already cut for 2 so Bob put up signage for 2 handicap spots. With the skating rink no longer there they could easily reduce the handicap spots to 1.

5. 136 Vanderbilt Ave (by Edward Jones Investment)

a. Poor turning signs on Broad St.

Discussion: Sgt Burgess thinks this complaint is in regard to the parking lot on Vanderbilt. Bob let everyone know that there are already "No Not Enter" signs on the back of the Police Department. He said that the only thing that could be done would be to double up the signs, but if you add too many signs people stop paying attention to them.

6. Madison St/Sconondua St @ Lake St.

a. Request a no parking area at that corner

Discussion: It is hard to see oncoming traffic if there are vehicles parked along that road. Brahim Zogby inquire if there are driveways there and Dennis Relyea let him know there are as well as a parking lot that can be used. There was a discussion on where to start a no parking zone.

7. Elm St. @ William St

a. Rethink the removal of the 4 way stop signs

Discussion: About 4-5 years ago the Board approved the removal of the 4 way stop sign at this intersection. Vehicles are not paying any attention to pedestrians at this intersection any more and residents would like the stop signs back. There was discussion about how stop signs should not be used as speed control and whether or not cross walks should be added at this location. It was decided that cross walks could be added, but not maintained in years to come.

8. Lenox Ave and West St

a. Crosswalks concerns with vehicles not stopping for pedestrians

Discussion: Sgt. Burgess let everyone know that this was more of a Police Enforcement issue, but wanted to bring it to the attention of the Traffic Safety Board as well. There was discussion

on the police department purchasing and placing in the road an A-frame “Watch for Pedestrians” sign.

Final Decisions

1. Remove 1 Handicap Spot at 117 E. Railroad St
2. Create a No Parking Zone from 191 Madison St. to the corner of Madison St & Lake St.
3. Add 4 way stop signs, crosswalks, and stop bars at the corner of E. Elm St. @ William St

Moved by Bruce Burke
Seconded by Don White

RESOLVED,

Ayes: 6
Nays: 0
Absent: 4
MOTION CARRIED

The next scheduled meeting is October 17, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. in the Common Council Chambers.

Motion to adjourn: James Sweet
Seconded by: Brahim Zogby

The meeting is hereby adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Luck
Secretary