CHAPTER 7
TRAFFIC CODE

ARTICLE 1. DEFINITIONS

Section 101. Words and Phrases Defined. The following words and phrases, when used in this ordinance, shall, for the purpose of this ordinance, have the meanings respectively ascribed to them in this article.

101.1. Alley. A narrow way between buildings or giving access to the rear of buildings.

101.2. Authorized Emergency Vehicle. Vehicles of the Fire Department, Police Department, ambulances, and any other emergency vehicles.

101.3. Crosswalk. That part of a roadway at an intersection included within the connections of the lateral lines of the sidewalks on opposite sides of the highway measured from the curbs, or in the absence of curbs, from the edges of the traversable roadway; or, any portion of a roadway at an intersection or elsewhere distinctly indicated for pedestrian crossing by lines or other markings on the surface.

101.4. Curb. The outer edge of a defined sidewalk, or either edge of the wrought and usually traveled part of a street.

101.5. Driver. Every person who drives or is in any manner in control of a vehicle.

101.6. Intersection. The area embraced within the prolongation or connection of the lateral curb lines, or if none, then the lateral boundary lines of the roadways of two highways which join one another at, or approximately at, right angles, or the area within which vehicles traveling upon different highways joining at any other angles may come in conflict.

101.7. Individual Parking Space. A portion of the paved surface of the street of sufficient length and depth from the sidewalk curb to accommodate a vehicle to be parked as shall be specified and marked off by the Selectmen or an agent designated by them.

101.8. Official Traffic Signs. All signs, signals, markings and devices placed or erected by officials having jurisdiction for the purpose of regulating, warning or guiding traffic.


101.10. Police Officer. Every sworn officer of the municipal police department or any officer authorized to direct or regulate traffic or to make arrests for violations of the law or ordinances.
ARTICLE 5. PARKING

Section 501. Stopping, Standing or Parking Prohibited in Specified Places. No person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with law or with the directions of a police officer or traffic control device, in any of the following places:

501.1. On a sidewalk;
501.2. In front of any driveway or lane;
501.3. Within an intersection;
501.4. On a crosswalk;
501.5. Within ten feet of the near corner of the curbs at and intersection;
501.6. Within 15 feet upon the approach to any stop sign located at the side of a roadway;
501.7. On the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street;
501.8. At any place where official signs or curb painting so prohibit;
501.9. In Fire Lanes.

Section 502. Hazardous Places. The Selectmen are hereby authorized to determine and designate by proper signs places not exceeding 100 feet in length in which the stopping, standing, or parking of vehicles would create an especially hazardous condition or would cause unusual delay to traffic. When official signs are erected, no person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle in any such designated place.

Section 503. Obstructing Traffic. No person shall stop, stand, park or leave his vehicle on any street in such a manner or under such conditions so as to obstruct the free passage of other vehicles in either direction unless specifically permitted by a police officer, or so as to leave available less that 10 feet of the width of the roadway for free movement of vehicular traffic.

Section 504. Parking in Alleys. No person shall park a vehicle within an alley in such a manner or under such conditions as to leave available less than 10 feet of the width of the roadway for the free movement of vehicular traffic, and no person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle within an alley in such position as to block the driveway entrance to any abutting property.
Section 505. Handicapped Parking

505.1 The Selectmen are hereby authorized to determine and designate by proper signs, certain parking spaces for handicapped parking.

505.2 Signs shall be posted adjacent to and visible from each handicapped parking space. Signs shall consist of a profile view of a wheelchair with an occupant in white on a blue background with a printed inscription. The inscription shall read: "Handicapped Parking: Special Plate Required. Unauthorized vehicles are subject to a fine".

505.3 No person shall stop, stand or park any vehicle in a designated handicapped parking space with the exception of those vehicles bearing a special registration plate or placard issued under Title 29, Section 252 M.R.S.A. or a similar plate issued by another state.

Section 506. Bus Stops and Taxicab Stands. The Selectmen by order may designate spaces as bus stops and taxicab stands on such public streets in such places and in such number as it shall determine to be of the greatest benefit and convenience to the public. The Selectmen shall cause such spaces to be designated by appropriate signs or curb markings or both.

506.1 Drivers. The driver of a bus or taxicab shall not stand or park the same upon any street in any business district at any place other than at such a space, when the same has been officially designated and appropriately marked, except that this provision shall not prevent the driver of any such vehicle from temporarily stopping in accordance with other stopping or parking regulations at any place for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading passengers.

506.2 Other Persons. No person shall stop, stand or park a vehicle other than a bus or a taxicab in any such space when the same has been officially designated and appropriately marked, except that the driver of any passenger car or light delivery vehicle may stop the same therein for the purpose of and while actually engaged in loading or unloading passengers or parcels and when such stopping does not interfere with any operator who desires to drive a bus or taxicab into such space.

Section 507. Method of Parking. All parking shall be parallel to the curb, right wheels resting at curb, except where individual parking spaces with lines indicate otherwise.

Section 508. Places of Assemblage. The Selectmen or Police hereby are authorized to place temporary or permanent traffic control signs in front of the entrance to places of assemblage or any building in which entertainments, plays, shows, exhibitions and the like are given, either regularly or otherwise, and for such period as the Selectmen or Police in their discretion may deem wise under the circumstances.
Section 509. Schools. The Selectmen are hereby authorized to cause temporary or permanent signs to be erected, indicating no parking adjacent to any school property, when such parking would, in their opinion, interfere with traffic or create a hazardous situation. When official signs are erected indicating no parking adjacent to any school property, no person shall park a vehicle in any such designated place.

Section 510. Snow Removal. No vehicle shall be parked at any time on any public street or way so as to interfere with or hinder the removal of snow from the street or way by the Town plowing or loading and hauling. Any police officer or Road Commissioner may cause any vehicle so parked to be removed from the street and placed in a suitable parking space off of the street, at the expense of the owner of such vehicle, and without the Town being liable for any damage that may be caused by such removal. For the purpose of facilitating the removal of snow, the Selectmen may cause to be placed properly marked signs along any street or streets as they shall from time to time deem necessary.

Section 511. Unlawful Parking. No person shall park a vehicle upon any roadway for the principal purpose of; (1) advertising; (2) displaying such vehicle for sale; or (3) washing, greasing, or repairing such vehicle except repairs necessitated by an emergency.

Section 512. Penalty. The operator or owner of any vehicle charged with a violation of any section of this article may waive all court action by the payment of a waiver fee of twenty five dollars ($25.00) at the Town Office before the date on which said owner or operator is ordered to appear in court as stated on the Notice of Illegal Parking.

Any person authorized by this ordinance may cause any vehicle parked in violation of this article to be removed from the street and be placed in a suitable parking space off the street, at the expense of the owner of such vehicle, and without the Town being liable for any damage caused by such removal.
ARTICLE 6. OPERATION OF VEHICLES

Section 601. Backing Limitation. The driver of a vehicle shall not back the same unless such movement can be made with reasonable safety and without interfering with other traffic.

Section 602. No person riding upon a coaster, sled, roller skates, or any toy vehicle, shall use the same upon any roadway.

Section 603. Entering Traffic from Curb. The driver of a vehicle starting from a curb or roadway edge shall yield the right-of-way to all moving traffic on the roadway; he shall not enter or attempt to enter such moving traffic until he can do so safely.

Section 604. Entering Traffic from Alley or Private Driveway. The driver of a vehicle emerging from any alley, driveway, or building shall stop such vehicle immediately prior to driving onto a sidewalk or onto the sidewalk area extending across any alleyway, yielding the right-of-way to any pedestrian as may be necessary to avoid collision, and upon entering the roadway shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles approaching on said roadway.

Section 605. Following Fire Apparatus. The driver of any vehicle shall not follow any fire apparatus traveling in response to a fire alarm closer than 500 feet or drive into or park such vehicle within the block, and not closer that 500 feet to where fire apparatus has stopped in answer to a fire alarm.

Section 606. Littering. No person shall drive a vehicle over any street in such a manner that material, rubbish, refuse, junk, or litter of any kind drips, sifts, leaks, drops or otherwise escapes therefrom or drops upon the surface of such highway, street or alley.

Section 607. Noise. No person shall sound an automobile horn, bell, or other sound device on a vehicle anywhere in the Town at any time, except when necessary for safe driving. No person shall drive a motor vehicle except a fire department vehicle, on a street unless such motor vehicle is equipped with a muffler in good working order and in constant operation to prevent excessive noise and annoying smoke, nor use a muffler cut-out on any vehicle, except a fire department vehicle, upon any street.

Section 608. Operation of Vehicles on Approach of Authorized Emergency Vehicles. Upon the immediate approach of an authorized emergency vehicle, when the driver thereof is giving audible signal by siren, exhaust whistle or bell, the driver of every other vehicle shall yield the right-of-way and shall immediately drive to a position as close as possible to the right hand curb or edge of the roadway, clear of intersection, and shall stop and remain in such
position until the authorized emergency vehicle has passed, except when otherwise directed by a police officer. This section shall not operate to relieve the driver of an authorized emergency vehicle from the duty to drive with due regard for the safety of all persons using the highway.

Section 609. Report of Accident. The driver of any vehicle involved in an accident resulting in injuries to or death of any person or property damage to the estimated amount of $200 or more, shall give such immediate notice to the Police Department as is provided by Section 891 of Chapter 11, Title 29 of the Public Laws of Maine.

Section 610. Right-of-Way, Intersecting Ways and Entrances of Private Roads. All vehicles shall have the right-of-way over other vehicles approaching at intersecting public ways, except traffic circles or rotary intersections, from the left and shall give the right-of-way to those approaching from the left and shall give the officers stationed at such intersections may otherwise regulate traffic thereat. The driver of a vehicle entering a public way from a private road, alley, driveway or building shall yield the right-of-way to any pedestrian approaching on said public way or sidewalk; and before crossing any sidewalk, or before entering such public way where no sidewalks shall exist, shall proceed cautiously across said sidewalk or into said public way. "Private road" as used in this section shall be construed to include a private road, a private way of any description, an alleyway or a driveway.

Section 611. Sidewalks. The driver of a vehicle shall not drive or ride within any sidewalk area except at a permanent or temporary driveway.

Section 612. Traffic Law Violation Tickets. No person shall remove from any vehicle a traffic law violation ticket, notice or citation placed on or in such vehicle by a police officer, except for the purpose of answering such notice or citation as required therein.
ARTICLE 7. PEDESTRIANS

Section 701. Pedestrians' Right-Of-Way in Crosswalk. When traffic control signals are not in place or not in operation, the driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way, slowing down or stopping if need be to so yield, to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within any crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling, or when the pedestrian is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger, but no pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impossible for the driver to yield.

Section 702. Crossing at Other Than Crosswalks. Every pedestrian crossing a roadway at any point other than within a marked crosswalk or within an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway.

Section 703. Crossing at Right Angles. No pedestrian shall cross a roadway at any place other than by route at right angles to the curb or by the shortest route to the opposite curb except in a crosswalk.

Section 704. Drivers to Exercise Due Care. Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this article, every driver of a vehicle shall exercise due care to avoid colliding with any pedestrian upon any roadway, and shall give warning by sounding the horn when necessary and shall exercise proper precaution upon observing any child or any confused or incapacitated person upon a roadway.
ARTICLE 8. MISCELLANEOUS

Section 801. Penalties. Unless another penalty is expressly provided by State Law, any person convicted of a violation of any provision of this ordinance shall be punished by a fine of not more than $100 nor less than $10.

Section 802. Separability. If any part or parts of this ordinance are held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid, it is the legislative intent of the Selectmen that such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.
PARKING REGULATIONS: PROPOSED

FALLS BRIDGE

South-Right Lane- two cars only at turnout nearest bridge. (no parking allowed anywhere else this side to Rte. 175 at this location.)

North - No parking allowed on right side of Rte. 175 on south side of Falls Bridge. Parking allowed on North side of Falls Bridge-Right lane to within one car length of "Airley Beacon" driveway.

CURTIS COVE

Eastbound parking-right side or road only. No parking anywhere leftside eastbound.

AA FIELD

Parking only on south side or road. No parking on north side of road.

PIE-IN-THE SKY

No parking either side of Mill St. from Rte 172 to High St.

SARAH'S SHOPPE

No parking north side of Rte 172 from Intersection of Rte 176, 1/10th mile north to NET #16. No parking west side of Rte 172 from Blue Hill Tea & Tabacco to Ellsworth Builders.
CROSSWALKS SHALL BE LOCATED:

From Town Hall steps - south side - to Packet Bldg.
From Bar Harbor Bank to Triangle.
From Triangle to Partridge Drugstore.
Drugstore to Blue Hill Dept. Store.
Merrill & Hinckley's store to Town Hall driveway.
Exxon Station to Odd Fellows Hall.
Post Office to south side Main St.
Union Street to High Street.
GSA To Consolidated School - High St.

All walks to be 4 feet to 6 feet wide. (Rules Art. 7 Chap. 7 Sec. 701)

Funds received from fines levied shall be listed in the Town Report. (Sum of monies raised and expenses incurred)

Upon acceptance by DOT, and adoption by Selectmen of the Town of Blue Hill, to become effective immediately.