



City of Racine

Meeting Minutes

Traffic Commission

City Hall
730 Washington Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
www.cityofracine.org

Alderman Ronald D. Hart
Chairman Martin DeFatte
Mark Kowbel
Charles French
Commissioner Richard Jones
Deputy Chief Thomas Christensen
Atty. Scott Letteney

Monday, May 15, 2006

5:15 PM

Room 301, City Hall

1. Call To Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:15 P.M.

PRESENT: Mark Kowbel, Charles French, Richard Jones and Scott Letteney

EXCUSED: Ronald D. Hart, Scott Lewis, Martin DeFatte and Thomas Christensen

Others Present: Michael Mei, Lawrence Johnson, Alderman Sandy Weidner, Alderman Jim Kaplan, Alderman Robert Anderson, County Supervisor Gaynell Dyess, and John Rooney.

2. Approval of Minutes for the April 17, 2006 Meeting

Minutes approved as printed.

to Approve the Minutes

3. [06-1680](#)

Subject: Communication from Whey Chai Chinese Restaurant requesting a "No Parking Anytime" sign be placed on the 4th Street side of the building at 400 Main Street; the primary use of this area is a loading zone for the delivery business. The delivery hours are: 11:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. seven days a week.

Recommendation: Approval to draft an ordinance for a 24 hour-a-day, seven day-a-week area privilege permit.

Fiscal Note: This new Area Privilege Fee At All Times would generate approximately \$572 per area privilege zone granted.

Michel Mei of Whey Chai Chinese Restaurant appeared before the Committee and was interested in obtaining a loading zone that would accommodate the hours of his business which are 11 A.M. until 10 P.M., seven days-a-week.

John Rooney explained by ordinance, loading zones are in effect from 9 A.M. until 6 P.M., Monday through Saturday. He indicated that at the last meeting the Traffic Commission asked him to determine the appropriate rate for a loading zone that would be available 24 hours-a-day, seven days-a-week. Rooney indicated the cost of a loading zone for seven

days-a-week, 24 hours-a-day should be \$26 per lineal foot. He noted the current rate per lineal foot for the Monday through Saturday, 9 A.M. until 6 P.M. loading zone is \$16 per lineal foot. He noted after thorough discussion with the Commissioner of Public Works, the most appropriate way to handle this situation was to provide either the 24/7 new loading zone at this rate or offer the existing loading zone at the \$16 per lineal foot. Rooney indicated an ordinance would have to be drafted for the new area privilege fee. He noted if the ordinance was adopted, he would then contact the owner of Whey Chai to apply for the area privilege permit 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

A motion was made by Kowbel, seconded by Jones, that this file be Recommended For Adoption .

4. [06-1746](#)

Subject: Communication from Lawrence B. Johnson requesting that the 1700 block of Hill Street be allowed to park on both sides of the street.

Recommendation: Receive and file.

Fiscal Note: N/A

John Rooney showed the Traffic Commission a slide of the 1700 block of Hill Street which runs from Prospect Street almost to Spring Street. He noted the street is narrow in width, only 28 feet wide on a narrow right-of-way that is only 40 feet in width. He noted the reason the area is posted with "No Parking at Any Time" on the northeast side of the street is to allow two-way traffic and emergency and maintenance vehicles to get through.

Rick Jones commented on the need for the parking restriction due to snow removal and emergency vehicles needing to get into the area.

Lawrence Johnson commented that people sometimes park on the wrong side of the street anyways, block driveways and even park on lawns.

After further discussion on the issue, a motion was made by Kowbel, seconded by Letteney to receive and file the communication.

Recommended to be Received and Filed

5. [06-1828](#)

Subject: Communication from 2nd District Alderman and County Supervisor Gaynell Dyess requesting a four way stop sign be installed at the intersection at 20th and Mead Street.

Recommendation: Deferred for study.

John Rooney described the intersection of 20th Street and Mead Street. He noted it had a significantly higher accident rate than most intersections in Racine. He noted it was a two-way stop on the east and west approaches and indicated that a study should be performed at this intersection to see if additional traffic control is needed.

Alderman Robert Anderson and County Supervisor Gaynell Dyess both indicated there is

a need for a study at this location. They noted high speeds of traffic on the north-south direction, the amount of children in the area, and also commented that the street would probably get more traffic once State Trunk 32 was shut down for construction this summer.

A motion was made by Jones, seconded by Kowbel, that this file be Deferred .

6. [06-1907](#)

Subject: (Direct Referral) Communication from the Deputy Chief of Police wishing to discuss school crossing guard locations for the 2006 summer school session.

Recommendation: Approve the 2006 summer school session crossing guard locations.

Fiscal Note: Estimated salary cost is \$18,000.00 with funding available in Account 101.310.502, Police - Other Salaries.

John Rooney distributed the list from the Racine Police Department for the school crossing guard locations for the 2006 summer session. He noted for some of the newer members, this item used to appear before the School Traffic Safety Commission which has been dissolved. It is now the responsibility of the Traffic Commission to approve the crossing guard locations.

A motion was made by Kowbel, seconded by Letteney, that this file be Recommended For Adoption .

7. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

John C. Rooney, Secretary

Approved by,

Charles French, Acting Chairman

If you are disabled and have accessibility needs or need information interpreted for you, please contact the Engineering Department, 636-9166, at least 48 hours prior to this meeting.