



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Final Traffic Commission

*Atty. Nicole Loop
Alderman Gregory Holding
Co-Chairman Martin DeFatte
Charles French
John Heckenlively
Thomas Eeg
Lt. Chuck Weitzel*

Monday, March 21, 2011

5:15 PM City Hall, Room 304 (Engineering Conference Room)

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:18 P.M.

PRESENT: 4 - Gregory Holding, Charles French, Thomas Eeg and Lt. Chuck Weitzel

EXCUSED: 3 - Nicole Loop, Martin DeFatte and John Heckenlively

Also Present: John Rooney, Sgt. Marty Pavilonis on behalf of Lt. Weitzel, Alderman Marcus, Walter Robles, Andrew McLean, Jacqueline Drummond, Carmella Marino, Margorie Ferrari, Joseph McGauran, Paul Cera, Rita Tomkiewicz, Bonnie Cera, Judith Swanson, Julie Borglin, Mike Frontier

Approval of Minutes for the February 21, 2011 Meeting

The minutes of the meeting were approved as printed. Passed unanimously.

New Business

1. [10-5785](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Alderman of the 2nd District requesting a traffic signal at the intersection of 11th Street and S. Main Street or relocating further south the existing No Parking sign on the east side of Main Street.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 01-17-11: Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 02-21-11: Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 03-21-11: The "No parking at any time" restrictions be approved on Main Street, west side, from 11th Street north 50 feet and south 30 feet.

Fiscal Note: The estimated cost of this signage will result in an installation cost of \$200.00 and an annual maintenance cost of

\$80.00.

John Rooney submitted a report to the Traffic Commission noting crash history at the intersection for the last 5 years. He noted approximately 15 collisions have occurred at this intersection, with 8 of them being failure to yield right-of-way. He noted 5 of those collisions were in the west-bound direction, and 3 were in the east-bound direction. He noted the site distance that was marked in the field with No Parking Any Time signs on the east approach, does not match what is listed in the Transportation Ordinances. He noted the signs will be moved out to that distance as defined in the Transportation Ordinance. He noted those signs will be moved in the field and should accommodate the site distance required for safe stopping. He also recommended that parking restrictions be placed on the west side of Main Street, north and south of the intersection of 11th Street to provide site distance for safe stopping on the west approach as well.

Alderman Marcus appeared before the Traffic Commission and indicated safety is the primary request at the intersection.

Joe McGauran appeared before the Traffic Commission and submitted a petition requesting traffic signals at this location.

Several people in attendance commented on congestion issues, but they didn't feel a need to install traffic signals at this location.

John Rooney reiterated, in previous studies, traffic signal warrants were not met at this intersection. He noted there is always undue delay on side street approaches along arterials and collectors at certain times of the day. He did note the safe stopping distance and site lines being provided by the recommended parking restrictions are only applicable to those motorists driving at or around the posted speed limit.

Charlie French suggested some targeted enforcement, or perhaps deploying the speed trailer in the area, would be helpful.

After further discussion, a motion was made by French, seconded by Eeg to approve the parking restrictions as recommended along with some targeted enforcement and deployment of the speed trailer in the area. Passed unanimously.

Recommended For Approval

2. [11-6124](#)

Subject: Communication from the Alderman of the 6th District, on behalf of the residents in the Yout/Georgia neighborhood, requesting parking restrictions on Georgia Avenue between Northwestern Avenue and Yout Street.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 03-21-11: Defer

Alderman Weidner appeared before the Traffic Commission and noted concerns of residents in the area about some of the parking on Georgia Avenue, between Northwestern and Yout Street. She particularly noted it was problematic this winter with the narrowing of the street. She noted it appears employees of The Vine Hair Salon were parking on the street and not using the off-street parking lot, thus causing some congestion.

Julie Borglin, the owner of The Vine Hair Salon, appeared before the Traffic Commission and noted there are only 14 spaces off-street and noted on some of her

busiest days, those spots are filled and the employees need to be parked on the street. She noted her business operates from 9:00 A.M. to 9:00 P.M. on Monday through Saturday and is particularly busy in the middle of the week.

Alderman Weidner suggested no parking at any time on the south side of the street.

Tom Eeg noted that if no parking was required, perhaps it should be on the north side of the street in the vicinity of the bus stop on that side. He noted there is no parking within the area of the bus stop and this would probably be less problematic for the business.

John Rooney asked the item be deferred while they study the area to see if there are, in fact, any problems navigating through the area with on-street parking, or if there have been any accidents related to parking on Georgia Avenue. He also noted Northwestern has a parking restriction on the north side, in front of the business from 3:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M. Monday through Friday.

After further discussion, a motion was made by French, seconded by Eeg to defer. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

3. [11-6078](#)

Subject: Communication from Edward Hunt requesting parking regulation changes at 1609 Yout Street - Belvedere Corporation.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 03-21-11: The "No parking at any time" restrictions on Yout Street, south side, from N. Memorial Drive west 90 feet and 140 feet be removed.

Fiscal Note: There is a nominal cost to remove these signs.

Ed Hunt appeared before the Traffic Commission and asked that some changes in parking regulations be considered in front of 1601 and 1605 Yout Street. He noted he owns the business at 1609 Yout Street with one-hour limited parking. He noted the two residential properties next to his business have No Parking at Any Time in front of the properties. He noted they consistently park in front of his business and he understands the hardship they have trying to find a place to park. He asked consideration be given to remove the parking restriction in that area.

John Rooney noted from a 1991 Traffic Commission minutes, there were additional no parking restrictions along Yout Street and they were moved to provide one-hour parking for the businesses. He noted the No Parking at Any Time restriction was in place prior to the intersection becoming a four-way stop to provide better site lines. He noted since the intersection is currently a four-way stop, he saw no need to keep the restrictions in place as all vehicles need to stop at the intersection and yield right-of-way.

After further discussion, a motion was made by French, seconded by Eeg to approve the removal of the No Parking restriction on Yout Street as described. Passed unanimously.

Recommended For Approval

4. [11-6098](#)

Subject: Communication from Amanda Lawrence, Chairperson for the Starving Artists Outdoor Fair, requesting the use of "Temporary No

Parking" signs to be used on the east side of S. Main Street, between 10th St. and 11th St. with restriction for the hours of 9:00 AM - 4:00 P.M. for Sunday, August 7, 2011; also requesting the "No Parking at Any Time" restrictions on 10th St. and 11th St. east of S. Main Street be waived for daylight hours prior to 9:00 A.M. and for a period not to exceed (1) hour from 4:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. on Sunday, August 7, 2011.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 03-21-11: The request to use Temporary No Parking signs on the east side of S. Main Street between 10th and 11th Streets on August 7, 2011 between 9:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M. be granted.

Further recommends the request to waive the "No Parking Any Time" restriction on 10th and 11th Streets before 9:00 A.M. and from 4:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. on August 7, 2011, in connection with the Starving Artists Outdoor Art Fair, be granted.

Fiscal Note: N/A

John Rooney noted this is an annual request and this year's date is Sunday, August 7, 2011. He noted it has been approved in the past and had no objections.

Motion made by French, seconded by Eeg to approve. Passed unanimously.

Recommended For Approval

5. [11-6152](#)

Subject: (Direct Referral) Communication from Walter Robles, Janes Elementary School Interim Directing Principal, requesting to discuss a crossing guard on the northeast corner of Wisconsin Street and Barker Street.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 03-21-11: Defer

Walter Robles appeared before the Traffic Commission and requested a crossing guard at the intersection of N. Wisconsin Street and Barker Street. He noted his concern with young children crossing Barker Street at this intersection. He noted there are three schools in that area and was concerned, particularly, at arrival and dismissal time.

Charlie French noted he lives across the street from the school and noted the biggest traffic and parking violators are the parents who drop off and pick up students.

Mr. Robles suggested a crossing guard for one hour in the morning and one-half hour in the afternoon.

John Rooney noted there is a way to determine whether a crossing guard is needed at that location. He noted there are two ways to determine if adequate gaps are available for pedestrians to cross and also to determine if the pedestrians using the crosswalk are such an age they would need a crossing guard. He noted that study could be performed and it would have to be performed on a day that was conducive for pedestrians to walk. He noted the study would be performed sometime later next month when the temperatures are warm enough to promote walking in both the

morning and afternoon.

Motion made by French, seconded by Eeg to defer the location for study. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

6. [11-6216](#)

Subject: In accordance with Section 2-95 of the Municipal Code of the general ordinances of the City of Racine, recommends that the following requests for changes in traffic code be granted:

A. Recommends that Section 94-141 (1) of Schedule F of the Municipal Code of the General Ordinances of the City of Racine relative to "No parking at any time" be amended:

By Deleting:

1. **Yout Street, south side, from North Memorial Drive west 90 feet.**
2. **Yout Street, south side, from North Memorial Drive west 140 feet.**

By Including:

1. **Main Street, west side, from 11th Street north 50 feet.**
2. **Main Street, west side, from 11th Street south 30 feet.**

Recommended For Approval

Next Meeting Date

The next Traffic Commission meeting will be April 18, 2011 at 5:15 P.M. in Room 301 at City Hall.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 P.M.

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.