



City of Racine

Meeting Minutes

Traffic Commission

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

Chairman Martin DeFatte
Commissioner Richard Jones
Alderman Ronald D. Hart
Asst. Chief Steven Hurley
Atty. Nicole Loop
Charles French

Monday, September 17, 2007

5:15 PM

Room 301, City Hall

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:15 P.M.

PRESENT: 5 - Ronald D. Hart, Nicole Loop, Martin DeFatte, Charles French and Richard Jones

EXCUSED: 1 - Steven Hurley

Also Present: John Rooney, Secretary; Alderman Wisneski; Alderman Weidner; Alderman Maack

Approval of Minutes for the August 20, 2007 Meeting

Motion made by Rick Jones, seconded by Charlie French to approve the minutes as printed. Passed unanimously.

New Business

1. [06-2893](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Alderman of the 6th District, on behalf of Merlyn & Joanne Tamblingson, 2207 Rupert Blvd., and Sue Griego, 2208 Rupert Blvd., to install traffic signal controls at the intersection of Chicago & Spring Streets. **Merlyn & Joanne Tamblingson, Sue Griego, and Alderman Weidner invited to the meeting.**

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission (1-15-07): Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission (8-20-07): Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission (9-17-07): Defer

John Rooney read a memo to the Traffic Commission indicating all the warrants for traffic signalization at the intersection of Chicago and Spring Street are not met. He indicated eight (8) warrants were measured and none of them met the criteria for traffic signalization. He asked that the item be received and filed. He noted the low accident rate at this location.

Alderman Weidner asked, in the absence of some of her constituents, the item be deferred until next month.

A motion was made by Jones, seconded by French to defer. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

2. [07-1066](#) **Subject:** Communication from Mercedes Dzindzeleta requesting the City of Racine post all of its speed limit signs at 25 mph. **Alderman Coe and Mercedes Dzindzeleta invited to the meeting.**

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission (09-17-07): Defer

John Rooney asked that this item be deferred. He noted Mercedes Dzindzeleta could not attend the meeting.

A motion was made by Hart, seconded by Jones to defer. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

3. [07-1116](#) **Subject:** Communication from Alderman Weidner, on behalf of Holly Brown, 419 Harvey Drive, requesting a stop sign on the corner of Rupert Street and Harvey Drive. **Alderman Weidner and Holly Brown invited to the meeting.**

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission (09-17-07): Defer

John Rooney noted this intersection had been studied in December 1999 and did not meet the warrants for additional traffic control. He indicated, however, in January 2000, the Common Council did approve a yield sign on the terminating leg of the intersection. He noted the intersection had an ADT of approximately 1,100 and a crash rate of 0.43 accidents per million entering vehicles.

Alderman Weidner indicated people driving in the area really don't yield. She indicated that she would prefer to see a stop sign at this location and asked that a study be made. She noted that more people used this area as a cut-through during the reconstruction of Kinzie Avenue and perhaps still use it to this day.

Alderman Hart asked that a stop sign be put up in lieu of a study.

Rick Jones responded the Common Council has adopted the MUTCD and the MUTCD indicates warrants must be met for the installation of traffic control and studies should be made to see if those warrants are met. He noted that the Traffic Commission or Common Council does not have to follow the recommendation, but that study should be made so the Traffic Commission has a basis for its decision.

Charlie French noted in lieu of the fact the study was more than five (5) years old, a study should be done and the item be deferred.

A motion was made by French, seconded by Jones to defer. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

4. [07-0451](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Alderman of the 5th District requesting the City of Racine work with both DRC and HSSA to install Pedestrian Right of Way signs at crosswalks throughout the Downtown area.

Alderman Maack invited to the meeting.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission (6-19-07): Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission (9-17-07): Defer

John Rooney read a memo indicating that locations can be used for in-street pedestrian crossing signs. He noted the R1-6 sign is acceptable in the MUTCD for use at intersections. He noted, however, it is not permitted to use these in-street pedestrian crossing signs at signalized intersections. He noted that sign placement should comply with breakaway standards meeting the requirements of AASHTO. He also noted these in-street pedestrian crossing signs can be placed seasonally to prevent damage from winter plowing or maybe moved at night if pedestrian activity is a minimum. Rooney compiled a list of intersections in West Racine and Downtown that met the criteria. He noted no intersections in Uptown met the criteria as all the pedestrian crosswalk areas are at signalized intersections. He noted the cost associated with the purchase of these signs would be approximately \$7,000, and that if the signs were to be taken in every night, agreements would have to be made by the business districts and the City for the placement of these signs on a daily basis.

Alderman Maack supported the idea of the signs. He asked the item be deferred for the traffic engineer to contact the business associations to see if they would support this.

Alderman Wisneski worried about the street crossing signs being hit by motorists. However, he also supported some type of signage for pedestrians.

Richard Jones asked the traffic engineer to contact the business districts and ask them to financially participate in providing these signs as well.

A motion was made by Jones, seconded by French to defer this item and to contact the business districts to see if they would like to participate financially in this signage program.

Deferred

5. [07-0515](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Aldermen of the 9th and 12th District requesting the City paint bright white crosswalk stripes on each of the crosswalks at the intersections of Washington Ave. and Arthur/Blaine/Hayes/Grove. **Aldermen Wisneski and Karas invited to the meeting.**

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission (5-21-07): Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission (6-18-07): Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission (9-17-07): Defer

John Rooney asked that this item be deferred for one more meeting. He noted he had

price information for different types of crosswalk markings. However, he did not have the labor costs if this work was to be bid out.

A motion was made by Hart, seconded by French to defer. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

6. [07-0516](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Aldermen of the 9th and 12th District requesting that some kind of "Pedestrians have Right of Way" or "Caution: Pedestrians" signage be installed on Washington Ave. on the westbound approach to the intersection of Washington and Grove. **Aldermen Wisneski and Karas invited to the meeting.**

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission (5-21-07): Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission (6-18-07): Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission (9-17-07): Defer

A motion was made by Jones, seconded by French to defer this item. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting date will be October 15, 2007, at 5:15 P.M. in Room 301, City Hall.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:13 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.