



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Final Traffic Commission

*Chairman Martin DeFatte, Alderman Gregory Holding, Commissioner Richard Jones, Atty.
Nicole Loop, Lt. James Dobbs, Charles French, Jeremiah Ladd*

Monday, July 20, 2009

4:00 PM

City Hall, Room 301

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 P.M.

PRESENT: 7 - Gregory Holding, Nicole Loop, James Dobbs, Martin DeFatte, Charles French, Richard Jones and Jeremiah Ladd

Also Present: Alderman Maack, Jay Christie, Eugene Modesti, Bennett Olson

Approval of Minutes for the June 15, 2009 Meeting

The minutes of the June 15, 2009 meeting were approved as printed. Passed unanimously.

New Business

1. [09-3873](#) **Subject:** (Direct Referral) Communication from the Assistant Commissioner of Public Works/Engineering submitting the study results and recommendation to remove the traffic signals at N. Main Street and Walton Avenue.

Recommendation: Approval of the removal of the traffic signal at the intersection of Walton Avenue and N. Main Street.

Fiscal Note: N/A

John Rooney explained the traffic signal warrant study for the intersection of Walton Avenue and N. Main Street. He went through the eight traffic warrants and noted that none of the eight warrants are met for signalization at the intersection. He noted the only warrant that was close to being met was that with pedestrian volume. He noted the signals at Goold Street, one block to the south, provide a safe pedestrian crossing with a pre-timed traffic signal that doesn't require the pedestrians to use the button. He also noted that when the button is pushed at Walton Avenue, it has to wait for the phase to change in coordination with the signals at Goold, to bring up the walk signal. He recommended the traffic signals at Walton Avenue and N. Main Street be removed and that a 90-day program to put the signals in flash, place a stop sign on Walton Avenue, and put up appropriate warning signs for pedestrian motorists would be the appropriate course of action.

Jay Christie appeared before the Traffic Commission and noted the municipal band and Animal Crackers Concert series events release more pedestrians than usual and they do open the gates near Walton Avenue to let those pedestrians go. He also indicated that employees using the Walton Street entrance total about twenty in the summer and eight in the winter.

Alderman Holding inquired if Goold Street was part of the 2010 paving project by WisDOT and John Rooney responded that it was not included in the project.

Rick Jones noted that no signal existed at Walton Avenue before 1990 when Walton Avenue was one of the entrances to the zoo. He noted an alderman request was made, notwithstanding the recommendation of the Traffic Engineer or the Traffic Commission, to install signals at that location. He further noted that the long-term plan for the zoo was to have the entrance relocated to Goold Street, which currently has a signalized intersection.

Alderman Maack stated he wanted the traffic signals left in for pedestrian safety.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Dobbs, seconded by Jones to approve removing the traffic signals at N. Main Street and Walton Avenue.

Passed unanimously.

Recommended For Approval

2. [09-3628](#) **Subject:** Communication from Lisa Baker, 1301 Romaine Ave, requesting a school crossing guard at the corner of Goold and Geneva for the 2009-2010 school year.

Recommendation (6-15-09): Defer

Recommendation (7-20-09): Defer

John Rooney noted the communication from Lisa Baker to request a crossing guard at the corner of Goold and Geneva was now accompanied by a request from the principal at Trinity Lutheran School. He asked that the item be deferred to see if the Police Department could accommodate the request with the existing guard at Goold and La Salle Street.

Motion made by Jones, seconded by Holding to defer. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

3. [09-3691](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Alderman of the 9th District requesting traffic control in the areas around Harvey and Maple Grove Parks.

Recommendation (6-15-09): Defer

Recommendation (7-20-09): Defer

John Rooney noted that Alderman McCarthy asked that this item be deferred.

Motion made by Jones, seconded by Holding to defer. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

4. [09-3696](#) **Subject:** Communication from Eugene Modesti, Modesti Realty (1309 - 1311 High Street), requesting the removal of "One Hour" parking signs on High Street.

Recommendation (7-20-09): Defer

Eugene Modesti appeared before the Traffic Commission. He noted the limited term parking for one hour in front of his realty business is not long enough for his customers to do business at this location. He asked that the parking restriction be removed.

A discussion ensued whether the existing "No Parking Anytime" restriction should be removed around the location as well.

John Rooney noted the "One Hour" limited parking has been in place since 1980, and the "No Parking Anytime" has been in place since 1970.

Chairman DeFatte suggested the Traffic Engineer contact the credit union, bank, and the tax preparation service to see if they had any objections to removing all the traffic restrictions at this location.

Motion made by Jones, seconded by French to defer the item. Passed unanimously.

Deferred5. [09-3789](#)

Subject: Communication from Bennett Olson, 4401 Lindermann Ave, requesting the placement of a stop sign on Lindermann Avenue between Ohio and Indiana Streets.

Recommendation (7-20-09): Defer

John Rooney described the stop sign layout on Lindermann Avenue between Ohio Street and Lathrop Avenue. He noted there were four blocks east of Ohio Street, with the only stop control in the north-south direction. He noted the remaining blocks between Indiana and Lathrop had a basket weave pattern of stop signs between them.

Bennett Olson appeared before the Commission and asked that a stop sign be placed at Illinois Street. He suggested a four-way stop.

A discussion ensued about whether a stop sign reversal may be required at this location.

John Rooney noted the stop signs are not meant to control speed, but to only assign right-of-way.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Jones, seconded by Holding to defer the item for a study of speeds and traffic control. Passed unanimously.

Deferred6. [09-3839](#)

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 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. for Sunday, August 2, 2009; 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 one (1) hour from 4:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M. on Sunday, August 2,

2009.

Recommendation: Approve the request.

Fiscal Note: N/A

John Rooney noted this was an annual request.

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

Recommended For Approval

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting will be August 17, 2009 at 5:15 P.M. in Room 301 at City Hall.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:58 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.