



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Final

Traffic Commission

Dave Wohlgemuth
Robert Mozol
John Heckenlively
Mark Yehlen
Nhu Tran
Charles French
Alderman Mollie Jones

Monday, November 20, 2017

4:00 PM

City Hall, Room 303

Call To Order

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

PRESENT: 6 - Robert Mozol, John Heckenlively, Mark Yehlen, Nhu Tran, Charles French and Mollie Jones

EXCUSED: 1 - Dave Wohlgemuth

Also Present: John Rooney, Jim Palenick, Traffic Investigator Gullifor attending on behalf of Lt. Wohlgemuth, Debra Turner, Devin Sutherland, Jeffrey House

Approval of Minutes for the October 16, 2017 Meeting

The minutes of the October 16, 2017 meeting were approved as printed. Passed unanimously.

New Business

[878-17](#)

Subject: Communication from the Alderwoman of the 2nd District wishing to discuss concerns of her constituents with the constant speeding on Park Avenue from 14th to 16th Street.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 09-18-17: Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 11-20-17: Defer

Debra Turner appeared before the Commission to discuss speeding issues that the neighborhood seems to experience on Friday and Saturday nights.

Traffic Investigator Gullifor, who was appearing on behalf of Lt. Wohlgemuth, commented on the speed study. It was noted it was not taken between the 14th and 16th Streets, but appeared to be taken in the 1700 block.

John Rooney commented these speeds were quite low and didn't seem to indicate any type of speeding concern, but noted that somebody should be contacting the Traffic

Investigators to see why the speed trailer was not placed in the correct area that it was requested.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Heckenlively, seconded by Tran to defer this item for RPD to respond to the incorrect placement of the speed trailer. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

[1025-17](#)

Subject: Communication from Devin Sutherland, on behalf of the Uptown Business Improvement District, requesting the removal of the No Parking, 6:00 AM to 8:00 AM, Monday through Friday restriction on Washington Avenue from 13th Street to 14th Street.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 11-20-17:

Recommends that parking restrictions be removed on Washington Avenue, east side, between 13th Street and 14th Street.

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

Devin Sutherland appeared before the Traffic Commission and inquired about the removal of No Parking signs that are posted from 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M. on the east side of Washington Avenue, between 13th and 14th Streets and asked for removal of the same. He felt they were no longer needed in the area due to the lane separation from Washington Avenue to 14th Street.

Secretary Rooney noted the existing parking restriction for the A.M. inbound from 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M., Monday through Friday, exists from Taylor Avenue to 13th Street and it pre-dates the last reconstruction of Washington Avenue back in 2002 where the outside lane on Washington Avenue now drops and goes eastbound only on 14th Street. He noted this means the outside lane, between 13th and 14th Street, on Washington, does not require this parking restriction because of the geometrics and the median islands that don't allow vehicles to travel in this outside lane. He recommended removing the restrictions.

Motion made by Yehlen, seconded by Mozol to approve. Passed unanimously.

Recommended For Approval

[886-17](#)

Subject: (Direct Referral) Communication from the Alderman of the 3rd District requesting a traffic study be completed at the intersection of 12th Street and Racine Street to determine if additional traffic management measures are necessary to reduce the potential for vehicular collisions.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 09-18-17: Defer

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 11-20-17:

Recommends that the installation of a flashing LED stop sign be added to the east approach of 12th Street, where it intersects with Racine Street.

Further recommends supplemental signs be added to all stop control approaches that indicate cross traffic from Racine Street does not stop.

Fiscal Note: The estimated cost of this signage will result in an installation cost of \$2,000.00 and an annual maintenance cost of \$300.00.

Secretary Rooney submitted a traffic study to the Traffic Commission and noted that the warrants were looked at for putting in all-way stops or to see if the existing two-way stops are met. He noted warrants were met for two-way but not for four-way stops. He did note, however, the high number of crashes that have occurred since 2012 at this intersection. He noted over the last six plus years, over 48 accidents have occurred at this location. He noted one-third of them were weather related or driver condition related and he noted most of the accidents occurred on the east approach for westbound traffic. He noted 34 of the 48 accidents occurred from that direction. He noted 17 of those accidents occurred because motorists disregarded the stop sign and drove straight through the intersection and the remaining 17, motorists stopped but then continued through the intersection with no regard for right-of-way of those vehicles on Racine Street. He also looked at the distribution of accidents during the day over the last six years and noted accidents occurred in 20 of the 24 hours of the day and there were no more than 4 accidents during any one hour, which indicated it wasn't an issue being caused or generated by school or business dismissal. His recommendation was to place supplementary signs underneath the existing stop signs to indicate to the vehicles on east and west approaches that the cross traffic on Racine Street does not stop.

There was also discussion regarding the number of measures that have been taken leading up to the Traffic Commission meeting, which included adding advance warning signs, trimming trees to better see the stop signs and adding stop signs.

Alderman Mozol felt even with the addition of the supplemental cross traffic does not stop signs, people are not seeing the signs, particularly on the east side, and asked the Secretary about putting in a LED blinker stop at this approach.

Secretary Rooney noted while these installations are for rural environments for higher speed roadways at the intersections where the speed limits are 45 mph and higher, this may be an applicable location to install one here. He noted that the intersection at Ohio Street and Spring Street has a blinker stop, although that intersection is not in the City of Racine and it could have been placed either by the County of the Village. He believed the recommendation made by Commissioner Mozol was a sound recommendation and said if it was approved for installation he could monitor the crash history over the year following the installation to see if this, in fact, has decreased accidents in that direction.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Mozol, seconded by Jones to approve the installation of the LED blinker stop on the east approach of 12th Street and Racine Street and add the supplemental, cross traffic does not stop signs, as well. Passed unanimously.

Recommended For Approval

[1159-17](#)

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 (21) of Schedule F of the Municipal Code of the General Ordinances of the City of Racine relative to "No parking from 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M. on Monday through Friday each week" be amended:

By Deleting:

1. Washington Avenue, east side, from 13th Street to Taylor Avenue.

By Including:

1. Washington Avenue, east side, from 14th Street to Taylor Avenue.

Recommended For Approval

Next Meeting Date - December 18, 2017 at 4:00 P.M. in Room 303 at City Hall.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 P.M.

If you are disabled and have accessibility needs or need information interpreted for you, please contact the Department of Public Works, (262) 636-9122, at least 48 hours prior to this meeting.