



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, John Heckenlively*

Monday, January 17, 2011

5:15 PM

City Hall, Room 301

Call To Order

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

PRESENT: 5 - Gregory Holding, James Dobbs, Martin DeFatte, Richard Jones and John Heckenlively

EXCUSED: 2 - Nicole Loop and Charles French

Also Present: John Rooney, Tom Eeg (on behalf of Rick Jones), Alderman Marcus, Alderman Weidner, Alderman McCarthy, Alderman Wisner, Daniel Risch, Patrick Starken, Zachary Evans, Joshua Pike, Pam Rossman

Approval of Minutes for the November 15, 2010 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

Alderman Marcus appeared before the Committee and noted the Condo Association at the southeast corner of the intersection has approached him about undo delay and difficulty getting onto Main Street from the east approach of Main and 11th Street. He noted a parking restriction was placed on that corner to provide better site lines. He suggested possible southbound left-turn restriction or even traffic signalization to alleviate the problem.

John Rooney noted this intersection was studied back in 2004 at the request of Alderman Cape for a signalized intersection. He noted the warrants were not met for signals at that time, and he doubted warrants would be met this time.

Alderman Holding also reiterated he saw no significant changes to traffic patterns at that intersection.

John Rooney noted the trees on the southeast corner on the condo property had

been ordered to be trimmed up for better site line. He asked this item be deferred so he could look at any crash history that has occurred since the last study, and to make sure the site lines are appropriate.

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

Deferred

2. [10-5867](#)

Subject: Communication from the Alderman of the 10th District requesting 4-way stop signs at the corner of Bate Street and Ashland Avenue.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 01-17-11: Receive and file.

Fiscal Note: N/A

John Rooney gave a brief history of the traffic studies at this intersection. He noted Kearney Avenue had some stop sign reversals done in 2002 to prevent cut-through traffic north and southbound. He noted there were high, 85% speeds, in the north and southbound directions. He noted three reversals were made at that location and it did not drop the speed significantly. He noted in 2008 the Alderman of the 10th District, at that time, asked for reversal of stop signs at Bate and Ashland Avenue. He noted a study was done and noted there were no warrants needed or reasons to reverse the stop sign. He noted the Traffic Commission received and filed the request unanimously. He did note the stop signs were reversed on the Common Council floor, notwithstanding the recommendation of the Traffic Engineer or the Traffic Commission. He noted while the stop signs were reversed it did only open up a two-block distance east and west for excess of speeds possibly in that area, although he didn't see that as problematic.

Lt. Dobbs noted some targeted speed enforcement could be done during the 1st and 2nd shifts in that area.

It was also noted there were no issues with site lines or seeing the stops that were reversed since 2008.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Dobbs, seconded by Eeg to receive and file the item and have targeted speed enforcement done by the Racine Police Department. Passed unanimously.

Recommended to be Received and Filed

3. [10-5878](#)

Subject: Communication from the Alderman of the 9th District, on behalf of Lincoln Lutheran, requesting to have the City consider a no-parking Ordinance and signs on the river-side of Domanik Drive from the curve to curve across from their building (2000 Domanik Drive).

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

Alderman McCarthy appeared before the Commission along with Daniel Risch.

Daniel Risch noted in the area across from Lincoln Lutheran, along Domanik Drive, several cars park in that location on the south side and he believes it creates site

distance problems and potential accidents at that location. He asked that a No Parking restriction be placed Monday through Friday, from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Alderman Holding and Lt. Dobbs wondered if there is such a need for the signs.

Alderman Weidner also noted the area is heavily used for recreation and also to view sporting events in that area. Putting up new parking restrictions may be problematic.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Holding, seconded by Dobbs to defer the item and study if there have been any accidents or site line problems at this location that would warrant a parking restriction. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

4. [10-5922](#)

Subject: Communication from the Alderman of the 6th District requesting a traffic study at the intersection of N. Green Bay Road, Rapids Drive, and Floyd Drive.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 01-17-11: Receive and file.

Fiscal Note: N/A

John Rooney noted he had recently received a jurisdictional map from the Commissioner of Public Works. He noted County Trunk Highway K actually extends on Rapids Drive all the way to Golf Avenue. He noted this section of Rapids Drive, where it intersects Floyd and Green Bay Road, would be under the jurisdiction of Racine County. He noted the appropriate action would be to receive and file the communication and ask the person interested in the change to directly communicate their concern with Racine County Traffic Safety Commission.

Alderman Weidner asked the Traffic Commission to refer the item to Racine County.

John Rooney noted that since it is not under the jurisdiction of the City of Racine, the matter should be referred to the County directly by the person or persons making the request.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Eeg, seconded by Holding to receive and file the communication. Passed unanimously.

Recommended to be Received and Filed

5. [10-5902](#)

Subject: Communication from the Alderman of the 11th District, on behalf of Laurie Kell (4000 Maryland Ave, #301), requesting signage to alert motorists of disabled persons in the vicinity of Lathrop and Durand.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 01-17-11: Receive and file.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Alderman Holding wondered if disabled warning signs could be placed in the vicinity of Lathrop and Durand Avenue for the property at 4000 Maryland Avenue. He noted this address, known as the Albert House, has many disabled residents and they thought some warning signs letting motorists know of their disabilities would be helpful.

John Rooney noted he would look in the MUTCD if there was a sign appropriate for this application and indicated such warning signs could be installed administratively and no action would be required by the Traffic Commission.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Holding, seconded by Dobbs to receive and file the communication. Passed unanimously.

Recommended to be Received and Filed6. [10-5857](#)

Subject: Communication from Joshua Pike (2431 Hayes Ave.) requesting a four-way stop sign at Blue River and Hayes Avenue.

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

Joshua Pike appeared before the Traffic Commission and noted some problems with the intersection of Hayes Avenue and Blue River Avenue. He cited kids playing in the area and vehicles traveling eastbound, making a left turn northbound onto Hayes Avenue. He cited several accidents to parked cars at that intersection and asked that an all-way stop sign be considered.

John Rooney noted there have been no studies done recently in this area.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Holding, seconded by Heckenlively to defer the item for study. Passed unanimously.

Deferred7. [10-5881](#)

Subject: Communication from Patrick Starken, RUSD Transportation Director, requesting parking sign changes at Fratt Elementary School (3501 Kinzie Ave.) and Knapp Elementary School (2701 17th St.).

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

Recommends that Schedule F of Section 94-141 be amended to create "No stopping, standing or parking from 7:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. on any school day except for school buses."

Further recommends that this new section be amended to include:

1. Arthur Avenue, west side, from Kinzie Avenue south 363 feet.
2. 17th Street, south side, from Quincy Avenue to Grange Avenue.
3. Grange Avenue, west side, from 17th Street south 124 feet.

Further recommends that this new section be amended to include "Cleveland Avenue, west side, from Kinzie Avenue to Lindermann Avenue."

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.

Patrick Starcken, from Racine Unified School District, appeared before the Commission. He noted there were some changes in time at Fratt School, from 7:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. He asked the signage be changed to reflect that. He also asked signs be changed to allow parent pick-up on the west side of the school and bus pick-up on the east side of the school on the north half of the block, between Kinzie and Lindermann. He also noted the change in start time at Knapp School and asked signs be changed to reflect that as well.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Eeg, seconded by Heckenlively to approve. Passed unanimously.

Recommended For Approval

8. [10-5920](#)

Subject: Communication from Zachary Evans (3411 Victorian Dr.) requesting a four-way stop at the intersection of Southwood Drive and Maryland Avenue.

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

Zachary Evans appeared before the Commission and asked consideration be made for a four-way stop sign at the intersection of Southwood Drive and Maryland Avenue. He noted some of the problems in the area, particularly with cut-through traffic. He noted there were several instances where he has witnessed rolling stops and near accidents.

John Rooney noted this intersection was last studied in 1997 and the recommendation at that time was to reverse the stop signs.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Holding, seconded by Heckenlively to defer the item for study. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

9. [11-6010](#)

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 (9) of Schedule F of the Municipal Code of the General Ordinances of the City of Racine relative to "No stopping, standing or parking from 7:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. on any school day except for school buses and mass transit vehicles owned and operated by the City" be amended:

By Deleting:

1. Cleveland Avenue, east side, from Kinzie Avenue south 240 feet.

Recommended For Approval

Next Meeting Date

The next Traffic Commission meeting will be February 21, 2011 in Room 306 at City Hall. (Old City Development Office)

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:16 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.