



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Final Traffic Commission

Chairman Alderman Sandy Weidner
Atty. Nicole Loop
Charles French
John Heckenlively
Lt Dave Wohlgemuth
Mark Yehlen
Robert Mozol

Monday, September 16, 2013

4:00 PM

City Hall, Room 301

Call To Order

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

PRESENT: 5 - Charles French, John Heckenlively, Mark Yehlen, Dave Wohlgemuth and Robert Mozol

EXCUSED: 1 - Nicole Loop

Also Present: John Rooney, Alderman Sandy Weidner

Approval of Minutes for the August 19, 2013 Meeting

The minutes of the August 19, 2013 meeting were approved as printed. Passed unanimously.

New Business

1. [13-9184](#) **Subject:** (Direct Referral) Communication from the Assistant Commissioner of Public Works/City Engineer requesting a review of Ordinance 94-145 - Parking Prohibited Between 2:00 AM and 6:00 AM; Exceptions.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 08-19-13:
Deferred

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 09-16-13:
Deferred

In the absence of Nicole Loop, the item was deferred.

Motion made by French, seconded by Wohlgemuth to defer. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

2. [13-9253](#) **Subject:** (Direct Referral) Communication from the Assistant Commissioner of Public Works/City Engineer proposing an Ordinance

regarding "right turn only" during the months of June, July and August on the east approach of Hoffert Drive and Michigan Boulevard.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 08-19-13:

Deferred

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 09-16-13:

Deferred

John Rooney explained to the Traffic Commission that an ordinance would need to be drafted for the Transportation section regarding right-turn only. He noted there are ordinances for mandatory right-turn lanes and mandatory left-turn lanes, however, since this was a seasonal restriction, a new section would have to be prepared in Section 94 of the Transportation Ordinances to reflect time of year restriction.

Charlie French inquired why this item didn't come before the Traffic Commission and was approved by Common Council. He noted the Traffic Commission authorized an extensive study over several months in the summer of 2012, which showed the problem of left-turners at this location and through-turners really did not exist. He also reminded the Traffic Commission speeding was not an issue at this location and neither was accident history. He thought the Traffic Commission and the City Engineer's Office spent an exorbitant amount of time on this study and the Traffic Commission didn't even have a chance to review the most recent request to make right-turn only at this location during the summer months. He did note, as a citizen, he thinks it is very inconvenient for those people that live south or west of the intersection of Hoffert Drive and Michigan Boulevard.

Alderman Weidner noted she made the decision based on a series of phone calls she had received in July and she asked for action on the Council floor so something could be done.

John Rooney did note, the restriction approved by the Common Council, is a seasonal restriction. He noted the signs were installed and indicated while the signs are there, geometrically the approach on the east side of the intersection from Hoffert Drive, really does nothing to encourage motorists to make that right-turn only, only in the summer months. He noted any improvements to that intersection, whether it is pavement markings or physical changes to the roadway alignment to encourage right-turn only movements, would have to be borne by the Parks Department as it is a Parks road. He further indicated that it really doesn't make a lot of sense to make physical changes out there for a restriction that is only in effect three of twelve months of the year.

After further discussion, Alderman Weidner suggested the item be deferred and perhaps some legislation should be introduced to rescind the resolution requesting the 3-month period of right-turn only.

Motion made by Weidner, seconded by Mozol to defer the item. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

Next Meeting Date - October 21, 2013 - 4:00 P.M. in Room 306 at City Hall

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:27 P.M.

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