



City of Racine

Meeting Minutes

Traffic Commission

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

*Chairman Martin DeFatte, Alderman Ronald D. Hart
Atty. Scott Letteney, Commissioner Richard Jones
Deputy Chief Steven Hurley, Jarvis Finley, Charles French*

Monday, January 15, 2007

5:15 PM

Room 301 - City Hall

Call To Order

Meeting called to order at 5:15 PM

PRESENT: 6 - Ronald D. Hart, Steven Hurley, Martin DeFatte, Charles French, Richard Jones and Scott Letteney

EXCUSED: 1 - Jarvis Finley

Lt. Carlos Lopez attended on behalf of Deputy Chief Hurley

Also present: John Rooney, Alderman Weidner, Alderman Maack, Merlyn Tamblingson, Joanne Tamblingson, Dan Malnar, Sue Griego, Rodney Mastin

Approval of Minutes for the November 20, 2006 Meeting

Motion made by Hart, seconded by French to approve the minutes as printed.

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. **Alderman Weidner, Merlyn and Joanne Tamblingson, and Sue Griego invited to the meeting.**

Sue Griego appeared before the Traffic Commission. She noted the difficulty with getting onto Spring Street from Chicago Street during the AM and PM traffic flow. She also noted the neighborhood is landlocked, and there is no good collector to use to get onto the main arterial of Spring Street. She cited increasing volumes and speed over the years.

Joanne Tamblingson also expressed difficulty entering onto Spring Street from Chicago Street. She noted extreme difficulty with making left turns onto westbound Spring Street.

Merlyn Tamblingson also commented on the difficulty of entering Spring Street, noted the high rates of speed on the road, and indicated he believed it was an accident waiting to happen.

John Rooney noted several complex warrants need to be met for the installation of traffic signals. He stated that many local streets intersect arterial roadways and do suffer delay during peak hours. He also stated that it was unusual to signalize the intersection of a local street with an arterial. He noted there is a very low accident rate at this intersection. He also noted the accident rate at this intersection was lower than many of the

intersections of two local streets. He asked the item be received and filed.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Jones, seconded by French to defer the item for study.

John Rooney noted the item would be put on the long-term deferral until the study could be performed and completed. He also noted that funding issues may come into play if the Traffic Commission and Common Council decides to install traffic signals at this intersection.

Deferred

2. [06-2918](#)

Subject: (Direct Referral) Communication from the Alderman of the 5th District, on behalf of Dan Malnar, 1922 Geneva St, requesting the City enact an ordinance which would require school buses to use their stop signs when picking up and dropping off students. **Alderman Maack and Dan Malnar invited to the meeting.**

Dan Malnar and Alderman Maack appeared before the Traffic Commission to discuss enacting an ordinance which would require school buses to use their stop signs when picking up and dropping off students. Dan Malnar stated that near his home on Yout and Geneva, vehicles have close calls when passing school buses, and believes that will potentially create an accident. He wanted to know if an ordinance could be enacted, whereas the school buses would use their stop signs when picking up and dropping off students.

John Rooney indicated the State Statute that is written for this matter only requires areas with rural road sections to use the stop signs when picking up and dropping off students. He noted the intent of the Statute was written because the students share the same space in the roadway as vehicles. He noted students need to walk on the pavement or the shoulders because of the lack of curb and gutter separating pedestrian sidewalk in those rural areas. He noted the areas in the City have urban sections with curb and gutter and sidewalks separated by a parkway. He also noted there are exceptions in the City where the school buses use their stop signs in areas where curb and gutter and sidewalk only exist on one side, or where they pick up on the left side of a one-way street.

Scott Letteney agreed with the idea of the ordinance proposed by Alderman Maack and Dan Malnar.

Rick Jones disagreed and indicated there is no factual evidence of accidents or any other issues that would mandate such a need. He further indicated that the State Statute was written for the rural areas and not for urban settings.

Alderman Hart indicated the potential of preventing any accidents by enacting such an ordinance.

A discussion ensued and a motion was made by Hart, seconded by Letteney to defer the item so the Traffic Engineer could get some feedback from the school service leasing company that provides transportation to Racine Unified School District. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

3. [06-3007](#)

Subject: Communication from Robert and Rebecca Venn, Port Gilbert,

LLC., requesting a change in the 2-Hour parking restrictions at 949 Washington Avenue. **Alderman Keith Fair, Robert and Rebecca Venn invited to the meeting.**

Rodney Mastin appeared before the Commission requesting a change in the two-hour parking restrictions in front of 949 Washington Avenue. Mr. Mastin indicated the building is an apartment complex with 16 units and has a pawn shop on the lower level. He noted the difficulty in providing short-term parking for customers of the pawn shop and the difficulty of finding on-street parking during the hours of the parking restriction. He noted the two-hour limited parking restriction on Washington Avenue was difficult for those tenants who are home during the day. He was also desirous of getting 15 minute parking for the pawn shop.

After further discussion, a motion was made to grant 30 minute limited parking for two vehicles 9 AM to 6 PM on weekdays.

The Traffic Commission elected to leave the balance of the parking restrictions unchanged.

A motion was made by Jones, seconded by Letteney to approve the 30 minute limited parking zone as described.

Passed unanimously.

Recommended For Acceptance

4. [07-0102](#)

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 94-143 (4) of Schedule G of the Municipal Code of the General Ordinances of the City of Racine relative to "One-half-hour parking from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM on weekdays" be amended:

By Adding:

1. Washington Avenue, east side, from 30 feet north of Tenth Street north 40 feet.

B. Recommends that Section 94-143 (15) of Schedule G of the Municipal Code of the General Ordinances of the City of Racine relative to "Two-hour parking from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM, except on Sundays and holidays" be amended:

By Deleting:

1. Washington Avenue, east side, from 30 feet north of Tenth Street north 170 feet.

By Adding:

- 1. Washington Avenue, east side, from 70 feet north of Tenth Street north 170 feet.**

Recommended For Acceptance

Next Meeting Date

The next Traffic Commission meeting will be February 19, 2007.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:15 PM.

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.