



# 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**

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Monday, August 19, 2013

4:00 PM

City Hall, Room 301

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### Call To Order

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

**PRESENT:** 5 - Nicole Loop, Charles French, John Heckenlively, Mark Yehlen and Dave Wohlgemuth

Also Present: John Rooney, Bob Mozol, Deputy Chief Mark Schulz, Michael Grayson, Ruth Grayson

### Approval of Minutes for the June 17, 2013 Meeting

*The minutes of the June 17, 2013 meeting were approved as printed. Passed unanimously.*

### New Business

1. [13-9133](#) **Subject:** Communication from Michael Grayson (816 Ostergaard Ave) requesting a stop sign at the intersection of Ostergaard Avenue and Elisa Drive.

**Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 08-19-13:** Receive and file.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

*Michael Grayson appeared before the Traffic Commission and noted that he believes there is an increase in speed on Ostergaard. He noted that traffic seems to be coming all the way up Sycamore to the end of Elisa and using the uncontrolled intersection of Elisa and Ostergaard. He is concerned that intersection, if left uncontrolled, will result in an accident.*

*Lt. Wohlgemuth noted he would place the speed trailer at this location to check on speeds.*

*John Rooney noted that both intersections at Elisa and Ostergaard, as well as Lindermann and Sycamore, are T-intersections and typically they are left uncontrolled. He noted State Statutes requires the terminating one to always yield*

right-of-way to the through lane. He also noted the traffic patterns may be so new in the area, because of the dead-end street now be opened up, that it may be prudent to not do a study until some point in the future when traffic patterns have normalized.

Mark Yehlen believes that most of the traffic going through the area is probably local and not transient. He did understand that some vehicles may be making their way further north on Sycamore to Elisa, but noted that the T-intersections don't necessarily need to be controlled to assign right-of-way.

Lt. Wohlgemuth noted he would report back with the study from the speed trailer to the Traffic Commission and John Rooney noted he could forward it to Mr. & Mrs. Grayson.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Yehlen, seconded by Heckenlively to receive and file. Passed unanimously.

**Recommended to be Received and Filed**

2. [13-9238](#)

**Subject:** (Direct Referral) Communication from the Alderman of the 15th District requesting stop signs on Erie Street between Melvin Avenue and Three Mile Road.

**Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 08-19-13:** Receive and file.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

John Rooney read the request from Alderman Diehl requesting stop signs on Erie Street between Melvin Avenue and Three Mile Road. He explained a 2003 study for an all-way stop at the intersection of South Street and Erie Street. He noted it did not meet warrants at that time. He also noted the volume of traffic that is going through the area over a 10-day period, as reported by the speed trailer, indicated only 10 vehicles were driving more than 11 mph over the limit. He noted that the traffic speed trailer reported volume of almost 20,000 vehicles during the study period. He noted that equated to roughly 2,200 to 2,500 vehicles per day and indicated that was not a speeding problem at this location. He did note there were some temporary all-way stops put up at Carlton and Erie during the Three Mile Road and Douglas Avenue construction projects. He noted there were no issues with those stop signs creating problems in the past.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Heckenlively, seconded by Wohlgemuth to receive and file. Passed unanimously.

**Recommended to be Received and Filed**

3. [13-9183](#)

**Subject:** (Direct Referral) Communication from Deputy Chief Mark Schulz requesting the review of mid-session crossing guards.

**Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on 08-19-13:**  
Recommends that the mid-session crossing guards be eliminated at the following actions for then 2013-2014 school year:

16th Street & Ohio Street  
16th Street & Roosevelt Avenue

Graceland Boulevard & Ohio Street  
17th Street & Grange Avenue  
17th Street & Taylor Avenue  
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Drive & West Street

**Fiscal Note:** This will reduce the Police Administration 101.311.5010 - Other Salaries budget by \$18,447.50.

*Deputy Chief Schulz appeared before the Committee. He noted many locations for the 4-year old pre-school programs that have crossing guards are not required. He noted the rules for 4-year old pre-schools are that the kids need to be bussed directly to the school or the parent needs to bring them in to the school, so there really are no 4-year old pre-schoolers walking. He noted removing some of these crossing guard locations could save up to \$40,000 in the Police Department Other Salaries for these unnecessary positions. He recommended removing crossing guards at several locations and asked the Traffic Commission to conduct a gap study to see if other ones could possibly be removed as well.*

*After further discussion, a motion was made by Wohlgemuth, seconded by Heckenlively to remove crossing guards for the 4-year old mid-session locations at 16th & Ohio; 16th & Roosevelt; Graceland & Ohio; 17th & Grange; 17th & Taylor; MLK & West. Further recommended that other locations be checked and reported back to the Traffic Commission. Passed unanimously.*

**Recommended For Approval**

4. [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

*John Rooney brought up a series of e-mails between the Police Department and the City Attorney's Office regarding the alternate streetside parking ordinance as it relates to the A.M. morning rush for the parking restrictions for 6 A.M. to 8 A.M. He noted the language in the ordinance seemed very difficult to enforce.*

*There was discussion on how this could be revised to make it a little more clear for those motorists who do alternate streetside parking, yet have to also comply with the 6 A.M. to 8 A.M. No Parking restriction which follows immediately after the alternate streetside storage requirement.*

*After further discussion, a motion was made by Heckenlively, seconded by Wohlgemuth to defer. Passed unanimously.*

**Deferred**

5. [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**

*John Rooney noted the Traffic regulation change that was proposed and adopted on the Common Council floor in July, needs to have an Ordinance for the Right Turn Only during the months of June, July and August. He noted there are Traffic ordinances regarding mandatory right turns and mandatory left turns and those locations are listed; however, there was not an entry for a mandatory right turn lane during certain months of the year. He noted that language has to be approved in ordinance form and added to the Transportation sections.*

*After further discussion, a motion was made by Yehlen, seconded by Heckenlively to defer the request for discussion at the September meeting. Passed unanimously.*

**Deferred**

**Next Meeting Date - September 16, 2013 at 4:00 P.M. in Room 301 at City Hall**

**Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 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.**