



City of Racine

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

Meeting Minutes - Final Traffic Commission

*Chairman Jim Kaplan
Nicole Larsen
Charles French
John Heckenlively
Mark Yehlen
Dave Wohlgemuth
Robert Mozol*

Monday, August 18, 2014

4:00 PM

City Hall, Room 303

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 P.M.

PRESENT: 7 - Nicole Larsen, Charles French, John Heckenlively, Mark Yehlen, Dave Wohlgemuth, Robert Mozol and Jim Kaplan

Also Present: John Rooney, Alderman Kaprelian-Becker, Nikki Aiello, Pat Miller, Daniel Christoffersen

Approval of Minutes for the July 21, 2014 Meeting

New Business

1. [14-10386](#) **Subject:** (Direct Referral) Communication from the Assistant Commissioner of Public Works/City Engineer submitting a traffic study for the intersection of W. 6th Street and Memorial Drive.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on July 21, 2014:
Deferred

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on August 18, 2014:
Receive and File

Fiscal Note: N/A

John Rooney read the study on W. 6th Street and Memorial Drive as it related to pedestrians and pedestrian accidents. He noted nothing in the accident and crash data received from RPD indicates there is a problem with the signal timing at this location. He noted that field observations indicated pedestrians have not been using the crosswalk at this intersection. He also explained the two accidents that did involve pedestrians were due to inattentive driving by motorists. He explained there is no amount of traffic engineering or signal timing changes that can improve safety for the pedestrians at this location, as it is a pre-timed signal and is set to provide safe crossings. While he noted the technology at the intersection, for the signal timing, is pre-timed and is antiquated as compared to other types of vehicle detection,

it still functions fine at a time of day manner and serves the need of the intersection.

Nikki Aiello appeared before the Commission and noted that the drivers are not looking at pedestrians, they are only looking at vehicles and cited many near misses at this location.

Alderman Kaprelian-Becker asked if all accidents were inattentive driving.

Lt Wohlgemuth explained several citations were written for different types of accidents and inattentive driving was one of them.

Bob Mozol thought it would be best to modify the signal operations to put in left-turn arrows at all approaches.

Charlie French reminded the Traffic Commission members that we have several reports by the City Engineer, as it relates to the signal timing and the crash history at this intersection, and none of them indicated any changes or warrants at this location.

Mark Yehlen also noted the intersection, if not in a state of disrepair, won't be upgraded anytime soon, but is on a list to be looked at over the next several years.

Motion made by Yehlen, seconded by French to receive and file.

On a roll call vote, members voting aye: Larsen, French, Heckenlively, Yehlen, Wohlgemuth

Members voting naye: Mozol

Motion passed 5:1

Recommended to be Received and Filed

2. [14-10415](#)

Subject: Communication from the Alderman of the 5th District, on behalf of Pat Miller, requesting removal of the one-hour restrictive parking near 1639 Yout St.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on August 18, 2014:

Recommends that the one-hour parking restriction near 1639 Yout Street be eliminated.

Fiscal Note: N/A

Alderman Kaprelian-Becker and Pat Miller appeared before the Commission and asked for removal of a one-hour restrictive parking sign near 1639 Yout St.

Pat Miller noted the sign has been there for decades and is for the home The Sausage Kitchen owns directly behind their business.

John Rooney noted he had contacted the alderman of the district about this matter. The restrictive parking at that location was installed by a property owner request back in the 1980's. He noted that parking restriction could be removed and opened up for all times of day.

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

Recommended For Approval

3. [14-10414](#)

Subject: Communication from Daniel Christoffersen, Operations Manager for Great Lakes Skipper, 2100 South Street, requesting 2-hour parking limits curbside between their driveway and the intersection of South Street and Mount Pleasant Streets.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on August 18, 2014:
Deferred

Dan Christoffersen from Great Lakes Skipper at 2100 South Street, requested some 2-hour limited parking in front of their business. He noted the area is currently "No Parking at Any Time" and many of their customers or sales people who call on their business have no place to park on the street. He indicated it was low volume as it is past the signalized intersection of Mount Pleasant and South Street.

John Rooney asked that the item be deferred while he meets with Mr. Christoffersen to determine where the limited parking restriction could be installed.

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

Deferred

4. [14-10430](#)

Subject: Communication from the Alderman of the 4th District, on behalf of Shawna Williams - 1522 Superior St, requesting to discuss traffic control at the intersections of St. Patrick Street & Superior Street and St. Patrick Street & La Salle Street.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on August 18, 2014:
Deferred

Alderman Kaplan noted there was a complaint from Shawna Williams about driver courtesy around Red Apple School on St. Patrick Street between Superior and La Salle. He noted the intersections are already 4-way stops and asked if perhaps some type of attention could be given by the RPD.

After further discussion, Alderman Kaplan asked that the item be deferred for Ms. Williams to be able to attend the next meeting.

A motion was made by Yehlen, seconded by French to defer. Passed unanimously.

Deferred

5. [14-10405](#)

Subject: Communication from the Alderman of the 11th District requesting referral to the Traffic Commission for an ordinance amending Sec. 94-128 of Municipal Code to allow an exemption for campers and recreational vehicles to be parked on city streets for up to 48 hours before or after using the camper or recreational vehicle for camping or traveling.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission on August 18, 2014:
Receive and File.

Fiscal Note: N/A

John Rooney read the memo from Alderman Holding to the Traffic Commission regarding an exemption for campers and recreational vehicles to be parked on City streets up to 48 hours before or after using that camper or recreational vehicle for camping or traveling.

Lt. Wohlgemuth noted this would not be enforceable as it is written. He noted you would have to trust the word of the RV owner. He indicated that typically Shift Commanders can use discretion for things like this; however, you do need neighbors to cooperate with the owner who wants to leave the RV or camper on-street.

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

Recommended to be Received and Filed

6. [14-10508](#)

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:

Recommends that Section 94-143 (9) of Schedule G of the Municipal Code of the General Ordinances of the City of Racine relative to "One-hour parking from 9:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M., except on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays." be amended:

By Deleting:

- 1. Yout Street, north side, from 120 feet east of Blake Avenue east 190 feet.**
- 2. Yout Street, south side, from Blake Avenue east 280 feet.**

Recommended For Approval

Next Meeting Date - September 15, 2014 - 4:00 P.M. - Room 303 at City Hall

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:06 P.M.

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