



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, Charles French, Jarvis Finley,
Commissioner Richard Jones, Deputy Chief Thomas Christensen, Atty. Scott Letteney*

Monday, October 16, 2006

5:15 PM

Room 301, City Hall

Call To Order

Meeting called to order at 5:16 P.M.

PRESENT: 5 - Ronald D. Hart, Martin DeFatte, Charles French, Richard Jones and Scott Letteney
EXCUSED: 2 - Jarvis Finley and Thomas Christensen

Also Present: John Rooney, John Chapman, Alderman Kaplan, Julie Kaplan, Charity James, Thelma Slater, Danielle Langer, Pat Wilson, Alderman Karas, other citizens concerned with Janes School parking.

Approval of Minutes for the September 18, 2006 Meeting

A motion made by Jones, seconded by Letteney to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2006 meeting. Passed unanimously.

to Approve the Minutes

New Business

1. [06-2046](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Alderman of the 5th District regarding a 4-way stop sign at 10th Street and Center Street.

Recommendation: The communication be received and filed.

Fiscal Note: N/A

John Rooney read the memo and summarized it from the Traffic Technician. He noted warrants were not met for a 4-way stop near Tenth and Center Street. He further noted there were six crashes over the five-year study period, however; four of them were hit and run, and one was driving too fast for conditions and poor weather. He indicated one correctable traffic accident at this location didn't warrant additional traffic control. He noted during manual traffic counts during dismissal time at the school, it was noted many vehicles parked illegally and it's probably a matter of the Police Department to enforce legal parking to provide better site lines at the intersection.

A motion was made by Jones, seconded by French to receive and file the communication and copy the Racine Police Department Chief with the minutes of this meeting.

Recommended to be Received and Filed

2. [06-2396](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Alderman of the 12th District wishing to discuss the installation of a stop sign at the intersection of Graceland Blvd. and Illinois St.

Recommendation: The communication be received and filed.

Fiscal Note: N/A

John Rooney read and summarized the report from the Traffic Technician regarding the intersection of Graceland Boulevard and Indiana Street. He noted the subject intersection did not warrant any additional traffic control. He also noted there was only one correctable accident in the five-year study period. The accident took place in August 2006 where a motorist fell asleep at the wheel and drove up on someone's private property. He noted this was probably the accident that prompted the request. He indicated Graceland Boulevard is a dead end street to the east and didn't indicate any problems with through traffic or speeding.

A motion made by Hart, seconded by Letteney to receive and file this communication. Passed unanimously.

Recommended to be Received and Filed

3. [06-2590](#) **Subject:** Communication from John Chapman, USPS, requesting to have "No Parking in Front of the Mailboxes" signs installed at 2525, 2627, and 2700 Jacato Drive.

Recommendation: The communication be received and filed.

Fiscal Note: N/A

John Chapman of the United State Postal Service appeared before the Commission and asked that "No Parking" signs be considered in front of three apartments in the 2500, 2600, 2700 hundred blocks of Jacato Drive. He noted these mailboxes were moved from outside the apartment entrances to the curbside for safety reasons. He stated there were problems with getting the mail into the apartment mailboxes when cars are parked in front of them, and asked that "No Parking" be posted in front of these locations.

There was some discussion on the ability of the Police Department to effectively enforce the No Parking restrictions at this location, and also some discussion regarding snow during the winter months. When roads are plowed up against the curb line, it would be difficult for the mail carriers to deliver mail to these locations anyway.

After further discussion, a motion was made by Hart, seconded by Jones, to receive and file the communication. On a Roll Call vote, members voting Aye: Hart, French, Jones - members voting Nay: Letteney. Motion passed 3:1

Recommended to be Received and Filed

4. [06-2585](#) **Subject:** Communication from Charity James regarding concerns about

the two-hour parking on Kewaunee between N. Main and N. Wisconsin.

Recommendation: The "Two-hour parking from 7:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. on school days" on Kewaunee Street, north side, from North Main Street to North Wisconsin Street be removed.

Fiscal Note: There will be a nominal cost to remove the signs.

Charity James from Janes School appeared before the Commission and read a letter regarding the two-hour parking restrictions installed by the City of Racine. She noted the hardships of the teachers in the area trying to find a place to park and asked that these signs be removed and perhaps placed on Main Street in front of the resident's address where they wouldn't impact the teacher parking.

Julie Kaplan requested a few spots be provided in front of the address.

Thelma Slater, a volunteer at Janes School, noted the hardships of parking in the area and couldn't imagine the teachers parking further than a block away, having to carry all the materials to and from school.

Alderman Kaplan explained the procedure for the original signage that was installed last month and noted he had abstained from the vote at the Common Council meeting.

Charlie French noted the Traffic Commission was simply following typical guidelines when they get these requests around schools where they sign the whole block.

Jones made a motion to provide two-hour parking on Kewaunee from Main Street west with enough space for two vehicles. That motion was seconded by Hart.

Alderman Kaplan then asked that the signs just be removed all together. With that, Jones rescinded his motion and Hart rescinded his second. Jones made a new motion to receive and file. Hart seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, members voting Aye: Jones, Letteney, Hart. Members abstaining: French

Motion passed: 3:0

Recommended to be Received and Filed

5. [06-2515](#)

Subject: To discuss concerns regarding deteriorating neighborhood conditions in the Lincoln Heights/Lincoln Park neighborhoods.

Recommendation of Committee on Housing & Neighborhood

9-28-06

That this communication be referred to Public Works and Services Committee; the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Board; and the Traffic Commission.

Further that the Committee on Housing & Neighborhood defer action on this item until it receives the recommendations from the above mentioned committees.

Recommendation of the Public Works and Services Committee**10-10-06**

The communication be referred to the Traffic Commission.

Recommendation of the Board of Parks, Recreation & Cultural**Services 10-11-06**

The communication be received and filed.

Recommendation of the Traffic Commission 10-16-06

The communication be received and filed.

Fiscal note: N/A

Alderman Karas appeared before the Commission and asked that parking restrictions on Lawn Street be moved from the north side of the street to the south side of the street.

Pat Wilson also appeared before the Commission and indicated it would make more sense to not plow the street on the north side and move the parking restrictions to the south side where the snow could melt in the sun during the winter time.

The Traffic Commission indicated a request such as this should require at least 50% or more of the residents approval to make such a change. They asked that this petition be put together and be brought back at a later date.

Alderman Karas further brought up some issues on Domanik Drive as it related to the excessive number of cars trying to park and parking illegally.

John Rooney noted they would check the existing parking signs and see if there are enough there to clearly convey the message.

The Traffic Commission felt the item was simply something of event parking where lots of vehicles come down to an event, they must park legally, park farther away, and walk to the event. They indicated this item should be received and filed.

A motion was made by Jones, seconded by Letteney to receive and file the communication. Passed unanimously.

Recommended to be Received and Filed

6. [06-2598](#)

Subject: Communication from Ronald A. Haarsma requesting an honorary street sign be placed along the roadway adjacent to the Ace Stamping property on the Durand Avenue north frontage road (formally Advance Mechanical property).

Recommendation: The item be referred to the Public Works and Services Committee.

Fiscal Note: N/A

John Rooney indicated this item is under the purview of the Public Works and Services Committee to install these types of honorary signs on the public right of way and asked that the item be referred to the Public Works and Services Committee.

Motion made by Letteney, seconded by Hart to refer the item. Passed unanimously.

Recommended to be Received and Filed

7. [06-2702](#) **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 Secion 94-143(14) of Schedule G of the Municipal Code of the General Ordinances of the City of Racine relative to "Two-hour parking from 7:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. on school days" be amended:

By Deleting:

1. Kewaunee Street, north side, from North Main Street to North Wisconsin Street.

Recommended For Acceptance

Next Meeting Date

Next meeting date will be November 20, 2006.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 P.M.

*Respectfully submitted,
John C. Rooney, Secretary*

*Approved,
Martin DeFatte, Chairman
Traffic Commission*

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.