



# City of Racine

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

## Meeting Minutes - Final Traffic Commission

*Chairman Martin DeFatte, Alderman Gregory Holding,  
Commissioner Richard Jones, Atty. Nicole Loop, Lt. James  
Dobbs, Charles French*

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Monday, January 18, 2010

4:30 PM

City Hall, Room 301

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### Call To Order

*The meeting was called to order at 4:33 P.M.*

**PRESENT:** 4 - Nicole Loop, James Dobbs, Martin DeFatte and Richard Jones

**EXCUSED:** 2 - Gregory Holding and Charles French

Also Present: John Rooney, Staff; Sgt. Kupper attended on behalf of Lt. Dobbs; Alderman Maack; Pam Rice; Tim Dominguez; Beverly Eppler; Doreen Stelmack

### Approval of Minutes for the November 16, 2009 Meeting

*The minutes for the November 16, 2009 meeting were approved as printed. Passed unanimously.*

### New Business

1. [09-3768](#) **Subject:** Communication from Toni Hansen, requesting changes in the stop sign location on Bate Street and Ashland Avenue.

**Recommendation (10-19-09):** Defer

**Recommendation (11-16-09):** Defer

**Recommendation (01-18-10):** Receive and file.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

*John Rooney recapped the history on the request for changes of the stop sign location at Bate Street and Ashland Avenue. He noted this was the second meeting in a row this item has been deferred, waiting for Toni Hansen to return with support for the stop sign reversal.*

*After further discussion, a motion was made by Loop, seconded by Jones to receive and file. Passed unanimously.*

**Recommended to be Received and Filed**

2. [09-4407](#) **Subject:** Communication from the Alderman of the 5th District, on behalf of Rosalinda Arredondo (420 Walton Ave) requesting the

2-hour parking restrictions on Walton Avenue be removed.

**Recommendation (01-18-10):** Defer

*John Rooney explained the parking restrictions on Walton Avenue. He noted this restriction for No Parking from 8:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M. on Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays between May 1st and September 30th has been a Transportation Ordinance for some time. His research found that it was republished back in 1970, so it existed prior to that year. He noted some No Parking Anytime restrictions were also placed on the east end of Walton Avenue near N. Main Street in 1991 for operational efficiencies at the newly placed signalized intersection. He noted with that signal being removed at the end of last year, the No Parking Anytime restrictions could be removed in their entirety. He did, however, note if that was done then the original No Parking restriction for weekends and holidays in the summer months would return for the entire block.*

*Alderman Maack noted that his constituent at 420 Walton Avenue is one of three residential properties, and he asked the Traffic Engineer to contact the remaining two to see if they were opposed or in favor of removing the parking restrictions.*

*After further discussion, a motion was made by Jones, seconded by Loop to defer the item while the Traffic Engineer contacts property owners. Passed unanimously.*

**Deferred**

3. [09-4408](#)

**Subject:** Communication from the Alderman of the 5th District, on behalf of PJ Habetler III (2612 Green Street) requesting a four-way stop at the corner of Green and Augusta due to several accidents he has observed, and the difficulty seeing around parked cars while turning.

**Recommendation:** Receive and file.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

*John Rooney noted that the intersection of Green and Augusta Streets is two-way stop controlled on the north and south approaches. He noted that it is stop controlled to the east, west, and south just one block away with a T-intersection to the north at Melvin Avenue. He noted there is no crash history at this location.*

*Sgt. Kupper noted the same. He noted this was a low-volume intersection of two local streets.*

*Alderman Maack noted the request was made on behalf of his constituent. He noted without this constituent present he had no objection to the Traffic Commission's recommendation.*

*After further discussion, a motion was made by Loop, seconded by Jones to receive and file. Passed unanimously.*

**Recommended to be Received and Filed**

4. [09-4471](#)

**Subject:** Communication from Pam Rice, 1600 Winslow Street, requesting parking restrictions for private walkways.

**Recommendation:** Receive and file.

**Fiscal Note:** N/A

*John Rooney read the State Statutes regarding parking restrictions. He noted parking restrictions exist for private driveways, alleys, crosswalks, but did not include parking restrictions for carriage walks.*

*Pam Rice appeared before the Commission and complained of people parking across carriage walks after they have been shoveled and removed of snow. She noted this causes a hardship on people trying to access the sidewalk who have to walk in the street to the nearest driveway or corner to get on the sidewalk.*

*Sgt. Kupper noted it would be impractical to enforce.*

*Rick Jones noted the loss of parking that would be created if such an ordinance would be enacted.*

*Chairman DeFatte noted that if carriage walks weren't cleared free of snow and ice, someone parking a car wouldn't know they even existed at that location.*

*After further discussion, a motion was made by Jones, seconded by Loop to receive and file. Passed unanimously.*

**Recommended to be Received and Filed**

5. [09-4472](#)

**Subject:** Communication from the Alderman of the 11th District, on behalf of Tim Dominguez (2052 Grange Ave), asking for a review of parking restrictions on the 2000 block of Grange Ave.

**Recommendation:** The parking restrictions be removed on Grange Avenue, west side, from Taylor Avenue north 115 feet.

**Fiscal Note:** There is a nominal cost to remove these signs.

*John Rooney explained to the Traffic Commission the parking restrictions on Grange Avenue, west of Taylor Avenue. He noted there are parking restrictions on both the east and west side of the road. He noted the west side parking restrictions are actually less in the field than they are in the Transportation Ordinances. He noted there was no record of why the No Parking at Anytime restrictions were installed. He noted because of the acute angle of the intersection with Taylor Avenue, turning movements would be difficult for delivery vehicles. He also conferred with the Public Works Superintendent, who noted that street maintenance activities would be difficult, such as plowing, leaf collection, and street sweeping if cars were parked too close to the intersection.*

*Sgt. Kupper also noted emergency vehicles may have a difficult time getting through the intersection with vehicles parked on both sides of the road right up to Taylor Avenue.*

*Rick Jones noted if the parking restriction was removed on the west side, he believes the larger vehicles for public safety and street maintenance could negotiate that intersection as long as the parking restriction remained on the east side.*

*Tim Dominguez appeared before the Traffic Commission and asked that both sides of the street parking restrictions be removed. He noted the hardship with finding additional parking spaces on Grange Avenue.*

*After further discussion, a motion was made by Jones, seconded by Kupper to remove the parking restrictions on the west side of Grange Avenue. Passed unanimously.*

**Recommended For Approval**

6. [09-4486](#)

**Subject:** Communication from the Assistant Commissioner of Public Works/Engineering wishing to remove the "No Parking 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M." parking restrictions on the west side of Park Avenue between 6th Street and Water Street.

**Recommendation:** The parking restrictions be removed on Park Avenue, west side, between Water Street and Sixth Street.

**Fiscal Note:** There is a nominal cost to remove these signs.

*John Rooney noted that on Park Avenue, between Sixth Street and Water Street, on the west side, No Parking from 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M. was in effect for a right-turn movement in the A.M. peak weekday hour. He noted after traffic studies were performed for the reconstruction of Sixth Street, the right turn movement was not as predominant as it was in previous years. He noted motorists can still make that right turn on red from the inside lane, and a bump-out was installed on the northwest corner of the intersection for streetscaping purposes. He noted with this installation, riding in the parking lane is not possible anymore and that restriction of No Parking from 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M. be removed.*

*Motion made by Jones, seconded by Loop to approve. Passed unanimously.*

**Recommended For Approval**

7. [09-4537](#)

**Subject:** Communication from Beverly Eppler requesting street parking changes in the 1900 block of Taylor Avenue.

**Recommendation (01-18-10):** Defer

*John Rooney noted the parking restrictions in the 1900 block of Taylor Avenue. He noted there was some limited-term parking of one hour between 9:00 A.M. and 6:00 P.M., except Saturdays, Sundays and Holidays between 19th Street and 20th Street on the west side. He noted a good portion of that block is also posted with some No Parking Anytime as it is in the intersection of 20th Street. He also noted a large portion of the west side does not allow parking due to the driveway curb cuts for the hardware store at that location.*

*Beverly Eppler and Doreen Stelmack appeared before the Traffic Commission and believed the 1900 block of Taylor Avenue is exempt from alternate street side parking because one side of the street has No Parking on it.*

*John Rooney explained this location is not exempt and that enforcement of alternate street side parking should be made by the Police Department. He noted a letter could be sent to the property owners informing them that alternate street side parking is in effect in this area and that he would copy the Racine Police Department with that*

letter.

*Rick Jones asked that any parking that could be found on the west side of the road there should be allowed. He said this might help with the confusion that that side of the road has a No Parking At Anytime restriction on it for the entire block. Jones recommended the item be deferred while any additional parking could be found on the west side.*

*Motion made by Jones, seconded by Kupper to defer. Passed unanimously.*

**Deferred**

8. [10-4673](#)

**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 94-141 (1) of Schedule F of the Municipal Code of the General Ordinances of the City of Racine relative to "No parking at anytime" be amended:**

**By Deleting:**

1. Grange Avenue, west side, from Taylor Avenue north 115 feet.

**B. Recommends that Section 94-141 (21) of Schedule F of the Municipal Code of the General Ordinances of the City of Racine relative to "No parking from 6:00 A.M. to 8:00 A.M. on Monday through Friday each week" be amended:**

**By Deleting:**

1. Park Avenue, west side, between Water Street and Sixth Street.

Recommended For Approval

**Next Meeting Date**

*The next Traffic Commission meeting will be February 15, 2010 at 5:15 P.M. in Room 301 at City Hall.*

**Adjournment**

*The meeting adjourned at 5:37 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.**