

ROCKFORD TRAFFIC COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD

Wednesday, September 9, 2015, 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Mr. Leland Carlson at 6:20 PM.

Members Present

Mr. Leland Carlson, Vice Chairman
Mr. Gregg Wilson, Transportation, School District 205
Mr. Vince McLean, Rockford Mass Transit District
Mr. John Reitman, Rockford Fire Department
Mr. Michael Hren, Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning
Mr. Scott Capovilla, Community Development Department
Mr. Jeremy Carter, Public Works Department

Members Absent

Mr. George Zawislak, Chairman
Mr. Fred Lierman
Mr. Dock Ward
Sergeant Kevin Nordberg, Rockford Police Department
Alderman Teena Newburg, 9th Ward

Also Present

Mr. Steve Naruz, 335 S. Rockford Avenue, 61104
Mr. Stan Naruz, 1923 Brownfield Road, 61108
Mr. Frank Naruz, 203 S. Rockford Avenue, 61104
Mr. Brian Hamilton, 2005 Brownfield Road, 61108
Mrs. Terri Hamilton, 2005 Brownfield Road, 61108
Mrs. Keri Tongue, 2008 Eastmoreland Avenue, 61108
Mr. Tim Hinkens, Public Works Department

The minutes of the last regular meeting held on August 12, 2015 were approved as submitted.

The Traffic Commission recommended the following items:

1. Request in the 7th Ward, by Isaiah Davis, 620 Alliance Ave, for traffic control at the intersection of Blaisdell Street and Alliance Avenue (Item was laid over from August meeting). (J. Carter discussed that the item was laid over to get the Alderman's opinion on which direction should stop since the traffic volumes were evenly split. J. Carter discussed that the Alderman wanted to defer to the Traffic Commission judgment. Commission recommended establishing traffic control of Blaisdell Street stopping for Alliance Avenue. Motion by M. Hren, seconded by J. Carter. Voted 6-0)

2. Request in the 12th Ward, by City Staff, repeal the existing “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction on the west side of Hancock Street from Van Wie Avenue to Brown Avenue and establish a “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction on the east side of Hancock Street from Van Wie Avenue to Brown Avenue. (J. Carter discussed that the request had come from the Alderman of the ward and was due to a family on the west side now having a handicapped member. The family had requested this because it would be easier for them to park on the street in front of their home than in back of property. Commission discussed that staff had not received any survey responses. Commission recommended repealing the existing “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction on the west side of Hancock Street from Van Wie Avenue to Brown Avenue and establishing a “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction on the east side of Hancock Street from Van Wie Avenue to Brown Avenue. Motion by S. Capovilla, seconded by G. Wilson. Voted 6-0)
3. Request in the 7th Ward, by Alderman Ann Thompson-Kelly, to establish 20 mph School Speed Limit on Day Avenue from School Street to Ashland Ave. (G. Wilson discussed that school busses drop off on Day Avenue and there are issues with drivers not obeying the bus stop signs. Commission recommended to establishing 20 mph School Speed Limit on Day Avenue from School Street to 140 feet north of Fairview Avenue. Motion by J. Carter, seconded by S. Capovilla. Voted 6-0)

The Traffic Commission recommended taking “No Action” on the following items:

1. Request in the 8th Ward, by Jerry Thompson, 1911 Brownfield Road, to establish a “No Parking Any Time” restriction on the west side of Brownfield Road from 100 feet north of Public Lane to 125 feet south of Public Lane. (Mr. Steve Naruz, Mr. Stan Naruz, Mr. and Mrs. Hamilton and Mrs. Tongue all discussed their opposition to the request. They also discussed not believing the restriction was needed and how it would affect them when they had guests. Commission discussed that there did not appear to be a traffic safety reason to establish the parking restriction. Commission recommended taking no action. Motion by G. Wilson, seconded by J. Carter. Voted 6-0)
2. Request in the 10th Ward, by Alderman Frank Beach, to establish all way stop control at the intersection of Regents Park Road and Parliament Place, thus repealing the existing 2 way stop control at the intersection of Regents Park Road and Parliament Place. (Commission discussed the low traffic volumes and no accident history at the intersection. Commission discussed that an all-way stop was not warranted. Commission discussed removal of shrubs at corner to improve visibility. Commission recommended taking no action. Motion by M. Hren, seconded by J. Carter. Voted 6-0)

3. Request in the 4th Ward, by City Staff, to establish all-way stop control at the intersection of Weaver Road and Live Oak Lane, thus repealing the existing 1-way stop control at the intersection of Weaver Road and Live Oak Lane. (Commission discussed the low traffic volumes and no accident history at the intersection. Commission discussed that an all-way stop was not warranted. J. Carter discussed that the request had been made due to concerns about speeding on the roadway. Commission recommended taking no action. Motion by M. Hren, seconded by V. McLean. Voted 6-0)

4. Request in the 7th Ward, by Alderman Ann Thompson-Kelly, to establish all-way stop control at the intersection of Day Avenue and Sherman Avenue, thus repealing the existing 2 way stop control at the intersection of Day Avenue and Sherman Avenue. (Commission discussed the low traffic volumes and no accident history at the intersection. Commission discussed that an all-way stop was not warranted. J. Carter discussed that the request had been made due to concerns about speeding on the roadway. Commission recommended taking no action. Motion by M. Hren, seconded by V. McLean. Voted 6-0)

Other items:

1. J. Carter discussed that due to a staff scheduling conflict that the October Traffic Commission Meeting will not be on the normal 2nd Wednesday but instead has been rescheduled for Wednesday, October 21, 2015.

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 PM. Motion by M. Hren, seconded by J. Carter.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held:

October 21, 2015 6:00 PM.

Rockford City Hall
425 East State Street
2nd floor, Conference Room A

Respectfully submitted,
Jeremy A. Carter, P.E.
Recording Secretary