

ROCKFORD TRAFFIC COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD

Wednesday, April 10, 2019, 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dock Ward at 6:00 PM.

Members Present

Mr. Dock Ward, Chairman
Mr. Don Bissell
Mr. Michael Smith
Mr. Mike Slife, Transportation, School District 205
Mr. Mike Rotolo, Rockford Fire Department
Mr. Scott Mr. Cedrick Ketton, Rockford Mass Transit District
Capovilla, Community Development Department
Mr. Jeremy Carter, Public Works Department

Members Absent

Mr. Fred Lierman, Vice Chairman
Mr. Todd Fagen
Alderman Joseph Chiarelli, 14th Ward
Sgt. David Nicosia, Rockford Police Department

Also Present

Alderman Venita Hervey, 5th Ward
Mr. Michael Reynolds, S. Winnebago Street, 61101
Mr. Kerry Partridge, Legal Department
Mrs. Kerry Lin, Public Works Department

The minutes of the last regular meeting held on March 13, 2019 were approved as submitted.

The Traffic Commission recommended the following items:

1. Request in the 13th Ward, by Nick Becker, to establish angle parking on the west side of Lee Street from 25 feet south of Fairview Avenue to 60 feet south of Lee Street. (A new business is moving into this location and made this request. S. Capovilla explained that paving the parking areas was a step toward compliance with City ordinances. Commission recommended establishing angle parking on the west side of Lee Street from 25 feet south of Fairview Avenue to 60 feet south of Lee Street. Motion by S. Capovilla, seconded by M. Rotolo, Voted 7-0).

2. Request in the 6th Ward, by Shannon Hull, Pyramid Plastics Inc, to establish No Parking Any Time restriction on the north side of Research Parkway from 475 feet west of Assembly Drive to 725 feet west of Assembly Drive. (Pyramid Plastics Inc. expressed concerns with the difficulty that trucks have entering their property on days when vehicles are parked along Research Parkway in this area. These vehicles generally are owned by people coming to the Northern Illinois Food Bank. It was noted that a similar request was previously made and approved west of this location along Research Parkway. Commission recommended establishing a No Parking Any Time restriction on the north side of Research Parkway from 475 feet west of Assembly Drive to 725 feet west of Assembly Drive. Motion by M. Rotolo, seconded by M. Slife, Voted 6-1)

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

1. Request in the 2nd Ward, by Alderman Jonathan Logemann, to establish No Parking Any Time parking restriction on one side of Prospect Street from Rural Street to Crosby Street, for the purpose of establishing a designated bike lane on Prospect Street from Rural Street to Crosby Street. (This item was laid over from the March Traffic Commission meeting. J. Carter pointed out that a pavement width of 36’ is needed to establish designated bike lanes per AASHTO and NACTO criteria. The existing width on Prospect Street is 33.5’ to 34’, therefore it is not feasible for these bike lanes to be provided by the removal of parking as requested. City staff will work with Alderman Logemann to determine what other options there are for bike facility upgrades. Commission recommended taking “No Action”. Motion by M Smith, seconded by J. Carter, Voted 7-0)

The Traffic Commission laid over the following item:

1. Request in the 5th Ward, by Alderman Venita Hervey, to establish a parking restriction of “No Parking Any Time” on the west side of Winnebago Street from 230’ South of Morgan Street to Montague Street, thus establishing “No Parking Any Time” on the west side of Winnebago Street from Morgan Street to Montague Street. (Alderman Hervey explained that Winnebago Street is a narrow street and that parking restricts this width further. This winter’s snow accumulation impacted the movement of traffic as well. She stated that Winnebago Street functions as a collector, has truck traffic, and is frequently used by the fire department. She commented that each property has available parking off the alley. The Commission asked about trash pickup, handicap concerns, and speed issues if parking is removed. Alderman Hervey replied that she believes trash pickup is currently via the alley and that she is not aware of any handicap issues presently. J. Carter replied that it would appear that speed would not be a major issue due to the length of the blocks. Mr. Michael Reynolds commented that he realizes that there was a problem this winter but questioned restricting parking year round. He asked about the possibility of restricting all parking only during snow emergencies. J. Carter pointed out that it is very difficult logistically. A question was raised about the existing parking restriction along Hulin Street. City staff will look into this restriction. Alderman Hervey commented that enforcement of paved parking pads will take place later this fall and that she would agree to delaying the parking restriction until after this

enforcement takes place. She will also meet with residents to discuss the parking pad issue as well as this parking restriction. Commission laid over the item until August.)

The meeting adjourned at 6:41 PM. Motion by J. Carter, seconded by M. Rotolo.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held:

May 8, 2019 6:00 PM.

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

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