

ROCKFORD TRAFFIC COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD

Wednesday, November 28, 2018, 6:00 PM

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

Members Present

Mr. Dock Ward, Chairman
Mr. Fred Lierman, Vice Chairman
Mr. Don Bissell
Mr. Todd Fagen
Mr. Mike Slife, Transportation, School District 205
Det. Tim Campbell, Rockford Police Department
Mr. Mike Rotolo, Rockford Fire Department
Mr. Scott Capovilla, Community Development Department (Arrived 6:30pm)
Mr. Jeremy Carter, Public Works Department

Members Absent

Mr. Michael Smith
Alderman Joseph Chiarelli, 14th Ward
Mr. Cedrick Ketton, Rockford Mass Transit District

Also Present

Alderman Tuffy Quinonez, 11th Ward
Assistant Deputy Chief Kevin Ogden, Police Department
Mr. Pablo Solares, Public Works Department

The minutes of the last regular meeting held on October 10, 2018 were approved as submitted.

The Traffic Commission recommended the following items:

1. Request in the 11th Ward, by Midwest Dental, 115 7th Street, to establish a 2-hour parking restriction on the west side of 7th Street from Charles Street to 1st Avenue, thus repealing the existing 30 minute parking restriction. (J. Carter discussed the business adjacent to the parking spaces had requested the change since it was difficult to see clients in the current 30 time restriction and this only affected two parking spaces. Commission recommended establishing a 2-hour parking restriction on the west side of 7th Street from Charles Street to 1st Avenue, thus repealing the existing 30 minute parking restriction. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by D. Bissell, Voted 8-0)

2. Request in the 5th Ward, by Arlene Marquez, to establish traffic control at the intersection of Orange Street and Broadway. (Commission discussed that while the intersection seems to operate as an “S: curve, it is really two offset or “T” intersections. Commission discussed placing yield signs versus stops signs. J. Carter stated the commission’s history of posting stop signs at “T” intersections. Commission recommended establishing traffic control of Orange Street stopping for Broadway. Motion by J. Carter, seconded by T. Fagen, Voted 8-0)

3. Request in the 8th and 10th Wards, by City Staff, to establish angle parking on Charles Street from 125 feet south of Center Terrace to end of Charles Street north of Broadway. (J. Carter discussed that currently parking was striped along this area and had been allowed for many years, however there was not an ordinance on the books. Commission discussed and there should be no problem if parking continues. Commission recommended establishing angle parking on Charles Street from 125 feet south of Center Terrace to end of Charles Street north of Broadway. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by S. Capovilla, Voted 8-0)

4. Request in the 11th Ward, by Brad Roos, 502 S. 7th Street, to establish a parking restriction of “No Parking Any Time” on the south side of 4th Avenue, 75 feet east of 7th Street to 140 feet east of 7th Street. (J. Carter discussed that the request was from one of the residents of the lofts nearby. The area in questions is in front of their parking garage and essentially their driveway. They would like to ensure that cars will not block the area. Alderman Quinonez expressed his support for the restriction. Commission recommended establishing a parking restriction of “No Parking Any Time” on the south side of 4th Avenue, 75 feet east of 7th Street to 140 feet east of 7th Street. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by S. Capovilla, Voted 8-0)

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

1. Request in the 14th Ward, by Dyanna Walker, 4929 Hampshire Close, to establish a parking restriction of “No Parking Anytime” on one side of Governor’s Drive, Trevor Circle and Hampshire Close. (Item laid over from the October Traffic Commission meeting) Commission discussed survey of owners preferred to not establish the parking restriction. M. Rotolo verified that a fire truck could still get through with parking on both sides. T. Fagen discussed the current speed limit of 25 MPH and the possibility that removing parking could increase speed on roads. Commission recommended taking “No Action”. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by T. Fagen, Voted 8-0)

2. Request in the 7th and 13th Wards, by Claudia Jones, to establish an all-way stop at the intersection of School Street and Alliance Avenue, thus repealing the existing two-way stop at the intersection of School Street and Alliance Avenue. (Commission discussed that the intersection appears to have good sight lines, a higher traffic volume on School Street, and a low history of accidents. Commission recommended taking “No Action”. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by D. Bissell, Voted 7-1)

3. Request in the 7th Ward, by Richard Armstrong, to establish all-way stop at the intersection of Arthur Avenue and Day Avenue, thus repealing the existing traffic control wherein Arthur Avenue is stopping for Day Avenue. (Commission discussed that the intersection appears to have good sight lines, higher traffic volume on Day, and a low history of accidents. Commission recommended taking “No Action”. Motion by T. Fagen, seconded by M. Slife, Voted 8-0)
4. Request in the 2nd Ward, by Alderman Jonathan Logemann, to establish an all-way stop at 2nd Avenue and St Louis Avenue, thus repealing the existing traffic control wherein St. Louis Avenue is stopping for 2nd Avenue. (Commission discussed that the intersection appears to have good sight lines, low traffic volume, and a low history of accidents. Commission recommended taking “No Action”. Motion T. Fagen, seconded by D. Bissell, Voted 8-0)
5. Request in the 2nd Ward, by Courtney Rawhoof, to establish an all-way stop at the intersection of 2nd Avenue and Shaw Street, thus repealing the existing traffic control wherein Shaw Street is stopping for 2nd Avenue. (Commission discussed that the intersection has low traffic volume, and a low history of accidents. T. Fagen and J. Carter both expressed concerns about possible sight line issues where vehicles may have to “creep” forward to get good sight lines. T. Fagen discussed the route as a possible cut through to avoid the traffic signals at State Street and Rockford. T. Fagen motioned to recommend approval of an all-way stop at 2nd Avenue and Shaw Street, the motion was seconded by J. Carter. Motion was defeated by vote of 2 to 6. Commission recommended taking “No Action”.)

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 PM. Motion by J. Carter, seconded by S. Capovilla

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held:

January 9, 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