

ROCKFORD TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD

Wednesday, July 8, 2020, 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Bissell at 6:05 PM.

**Members Present**

Mr. Don Bissell, Chairman  
Mr. Fred Lierman, Vice Chairman  
Sgt. Jason DoBran, Rockford Police Department  
Mr. Mike Rotolo, Rockford Fire Department  
Mr. Mike Slife, Transportation, School District 205  
Mr. Scott Capovilla, Community Development Department  
Mr. Jeremy Carter, Public Works Department

**Members Absent**

Alderman Joseph Chiarelli, 14<sup>th</sup> Ward  
Ms. Dorien Peterson  
Mr. Dock Ward  
Mr. Todd Fagen  
Mr. Cedrick Ketton, Rockford Mass Transit District

**Also Present**

Mr. Fred Franck, 1023 22nd Street, 61108  
Mr. Leopoldo De La Mora, 2846 Collins Street, 61109  
Ms. Karla De La Mora, 2845 Collins Street, 61109  
Ms. Amber Anthony, 2838 Collins Street, 61109  
Ms. Michele Ingram, 2905 Collins Street, 61109  
Mr. Randy Lindley, 2818 Collins Street, 61109  
Mr. Glenn Trommels, IT Department

The minutes of the last regular meeting held on June 10, 2020, were approved as submitted.

**The Traffic Commission recommended the following items:**

1. Request in the 14th Ward, from City Staff, to establish a “Through Street” designation on Bell School Road from Spring Brook Road to Riverside Boulevard. (J. Carter stated that this is essentially a book keeping issue and that Spring Brook Road per ordinance is a Through Street to I-90. It was discussed that in the 1980’s or 1990’s Spring Brook Road was reconfigured to connect with the extension of Bell School Road and the ordinance was not changed. This request would bring the ordinance in line with the existing roadway configuration. Commission recommended establishing a “Through Street” designation on Bell School Road from Spring Brook Road to Riverside Boulevard. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by S. Capovilla, Voted 6-0).

2. Request in the 14th Ward, from City Staff, to establish a “Through Street” designation on Spring Brook Road from Spring Creek Road to Bell School Road, thus repealing the existing “Through Street” designation on Spring Brook Road from Spring Creek Road to east of City Limits. (J. Carter stated that this is essentially a book keeping issue and that Spring Brook Road per ordinance is a Through Street to I-90. It was discussed that in the 1980’s or 1990’s Spring Brook Road was reconfigured to connect with the extension of Bell School Road and the ordinance was not changed. This request would bring the ordinance in line with the existing roadway configuration. Commission recommended establishing a “Through Street” designation on Spring Brook Road from Spring Creek Road to Bell School Road. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by S. Capovilla, Voted 6-0).

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

1. Request in the 10th Ward, by Frederick Franck, 1023 22nd Street, to establish 4-way stop control at the intersection of 22nd Street and 10th Avenue, thus repealing the 2-way stop control on 10th Avenue at 22nd Street. (Mr. Franck discussed his concerns about speeding and small children playing in neighborhood. Commission discussed there was an uneven split in traffic from traffic counts, and stops signs were not useful in speed control. Commission discussed that the intersection appears to have good sight lines, a low traffic volume, and low number of accidents. Commission recommended taking “No Action”. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by S. Capovilla, Voted 6-0).
2. Request in the 6th Ward, by Leslie Zepeda, 2805 Bluffside Drive, to establish 4-way stop control at the intersection of Bluffside Drive and Chesterfield Avenue, thus repealing the 2-way stop control on Chesterfield Avenue at Bluffside Drive. (Commission discussed that the intersection appears to have good sight lines, a low traffic volume, and low number of accidents. Commission recommended taking “No Action”. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by J. Carter, Voted 6-0).

**The Traffic Commission laid over the following items:**

1. Request in the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward, by Leopoldo De La Mora, 2846 Collins Street, to establish traffic control at the intersection of Reed Avenue and Collins Street. (Mr. De La Mora, Ms. De La Mora, Ms. Anthony, Ms. Ingram, and Mr. Lindley all spoke about concerns for speeding, reckless driving, as well as felt children in the neighborhood were in danger, and it only took one driver to hurt people. Commission discussed stop sign may not eliminate all concerns as one car could still stop at the sign. Commission explained how stop signs can cause a false sense of confidence and also cause accidents. Ms. De La Mora stated she believed a stop sign had been at the intersection and was take down my local teens. Commission laid item over so staff could research if a sign had been there previously.

**The Traffic Commission elected the officers for the 2020 – 2021 Rockford Traffic Commission and nominated the following:**

Item was laid over as there were only two (2) citizen members in attendance and members thought it would more appropriate to have more citizen members present.

The meeting adjourned at 6:57 PM. Motion by S. Capovilla, seconded by M. Slife.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held:

**August 12, 2020 6:00 PM.**

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

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