

ROCKFORD TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD  
Thursday, November 12, 2020, 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Don Bissell at 6:00 PM.

**Members Present**

Mr. Don Bissell, Chairman  
Ms. Dorien Peterson, Vice Chairman  
Mr. Fred Lierman  
Mr. Todd Fagen  
Mr. Mike Rotolo, Rockford Fire Department  
Sgt. Jason DoBran, Rockford Police Department  
Mr. Mike Slife, Transportation, School District 205  
Mr. Scott Capovilla, Community Development Department  
Mrs. Kerry Lin, Public Works Department

**Members Absent**

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

**Also Present**

Ms. Angel Satterly, 1924 Fremont Street, 61103  
Mr. Jeff Fritz, 1628 Williamsburg Road, 61107  
Alderman Frank Beach, 10<sup>th</sup> Ward  
Mr. Jeremy Carter, Public Works Department  
Ms. Samantha Hein, Information Technology Department

The minutes of the last regular meeting held on October 14, 2020, were approved as submitted.

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

1. Request in the 9th Ward, by Angel Satterly, 1924 Fremont Street, to repeal the parking restriction of “No Parking 6am to 5pm” on the west side of Fremont Street from 120 feet south of Quincy Street to 270 feet south of Quincy Street. (Ms. Angel Satterly explained how the restriction was formerly beneficial for trucks turning in and out of the Willows on Main Nursing Home, which is no longer present. K. Lin pointed out that the received survey responses were in favor of repealing the restriction. Commission recommended repealing the “No Parking 6am to 5pm” on the west side of Fremont Street from 120 feet south of Quincy Street to 270 feet south of Quincy Street, thus reestablishing unrestricted parking. 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 5th Ward, by Illinois Department of Transportation, to repeal 20mph School Zone Speed Limit on Kishwaukee Street from 6th Avenue to Gregory Street. (J. Carter explained that this item is due to IDOT requesting that the speed limit signs be removed. IDOT’s interpretation is that the warrants for this speed limit zone are not met in part because of the separation between the roadway and the multi-use path. However, city staff’s interpretation differs from IDOT. Commission recommended taking “No Action”. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by T. Fagen, Voted 8-0).
2. Request in the 10th Ward by Alderman Frank Beach to establish a 25mph speed limit on Williamsburg Road from Guilford Road to Arbutus Road, thus repealing the 30mph speed limit on Williamsburg Road from Guilford Road to Arbutus Road. (Mr. Jeff Fritz expressed his appreciation for actions that have already been taken by city staff to try to address the speeding issues on Williamsburg. He discussed how people walk in the street due to the absence of sidewalks and that the neighborhood is concerned about the safety of all residents, especially children. K. Lin listed the requirements of the ordinance for lowering the posted speed to 25 mph but J. Carter expressed that the petition that the ordinance specifies is not necessary being that Alderman Beach made the request. K. Lin also explained the speed study that was performed. F. Lierman and D. Bissell pointed out that those drivers who disrespect the 30mph speed limit would not abide by the 25mph limit. J. Carter explained that while staff would not oppose a city-wide residential speed limit of 25 mph, there are concerns with isolated streets being posted 25 mph. A city-wide change would involve replacement of all signs and could cost \$70,000 or more. M. Rotolo and J. DoBran suggested other efforts that the neighborhood could make to reduce speeding. Alderman Beach joined the meeting after voting had taken place and asked what other measures could be taken. J. Carter stated that staff could look at traffic calming options. A motion was made by T. Fagen and seconded by D. Peterson to approve establishing a 25mph speed limit on Williamsburg Road from Guilford Road to Arbutus Road. A vote was taken, resulting in a 6-2 vote in opposition to the motion. The Commission then recommended taking “No Action”. Motion by D. Peterson, seconded by F. Lierman, Voted 8-0).

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

1. Request in the 3rd Ward, by Baba Daljit Singh, representing the Sikh Religious & Educational Society of USA, Inc., to establish handicapped parking on the south side of Market Street from 75 feet east of 4th Street to 95 feet east of 4th Street, thus repealing the 2-hour parking restriction on the south side of Market Street from 75 feet east of 4<sup>th</sup> Street to 95 feet east of 4th Street. (S. Capovilla expressed concern that handicap parking requirements are not met in the off-street parking lot. J. Carter concurred that discussion with the requester regarding this should take place before this item moves forward. Commission recommended laying this item over. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by S. Capovilla, Voted 8-0).
2. Request in the 3rd Ward, by Baba Daljit Singh, representing the Sikh Religious & Educational Society of USA, Inc., to establish a passenger loading zone on the south side

of Market Street from 135 feet east of 4th Street to 155 feet east of 4th Street, thus repealing the 2-hour parking restriction on the south side of Market Street from 135 feet east of 4th Street to 155 feet east of 4th Street.

3. Request in the 3rd Ward, by Baba Daljit Singh, representing the Sikh Religious & Educational Society of USA, Inc., to establish handicapped parking on the north side of East State Street from 95 feet east of 4th Street to 115 feet east of 4th Street, thus repealing the 1-hour parking restriction on the north side of State Street from 95 feet east of 4<sup>th</sup> Street to 115 feet east of 4th Street.
4. Request in the 3rd Ward, by Baba Daljit Singh, representing the Sikh Religious & Educational Society of USA, Inc., to establish a passenger loading zone on the north side of East State Street from 155 feet east of 4th Street to 175 feet east of 4th Street, thus repealing the 1-hour parking restriction on the north side of State Street from 155 feet east of 4th Street to 175 feet east of 4th Street. (The remaining items by this requestor were taken as a group. Due to the concern expressed regarding the off-street lot, the Commission recommended laying this item over. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by D. Peterson, Voted 8-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:11 PM. Motion by T. Fagen, seconded by S. Capovilla.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held:

**January 13, 2021 6:00 PM.**

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Kerry R. Lin, P.E.  
Recording Secretary