

ROCKFORD TRAFFIC COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD
Wednesday, March 10, 2021, 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. Dock Ward
Mr. Todd Fagen
Mr. Mike Rotolo, Rockford Fire Department
Mr. Cedrick Ketton, Rockford Mass Transit District
Mr. Mike Slife, Transportation, School District 205
Mr. Scott Capovilla, Community Development Department
Mrs. Kerry Lin, Public Works Department

Members Absent

Sgt. Jason DoBran, Rockford Police Department
Alderman Kevin Frost, 4th Ward

Also Present

Ms. Rosario Lara (Hernandez), 238 Guard Street, 61103
Mr. Steve & Mrs. Amanda Lenox, 1202 Camp Avenue, 61103
Ms. Kelly Kloppmann, 232 Guard Street, 61103
Mr. Jeremy Carter, Public Works Department
Mr. Ebron Tyson, Information Technology Department

The minutes of the last regular meeting held on February 10, 2021, were approved as submitted.

The Traffic Commission recommended the following items:

1. Request in the 5th Ward, by City Staff, to establish a 20mph School Zone Speed Limit on Clover Avenue from Montague Street to Lincoln Avenue. (This and the following item were taken together. Commission recommended establishing a 20mph School Zone Speed Limit on Clover Avenue from Montague Street to Lincoln Avenue. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by D. Ward, Voted 9-0).
2. Request in the 5th Ward, by City Staff, to establish a 20mph School Zone Speed Limit on Rose Avenue from Montague Street to Lincoln Avenue. (See above. Commission recommended establishing a 20mph School Zone Speed Limit on Rose Avenue from Montague Street to Lincoln Avenue. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by D. Ward, Voted 9-0).

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

1. Request in the 13th Ward, from Henry Lee Jr., 701 Trenton Avenue, to establish traffic control at the intersection of Lexington Avenue and Hudson Street. (This and the following items were discussed together. K. Lin commented that the accident at the intersection with Trenton Avenue was alcohol-related and the intersection at Newport Avenue was a sideswipe of a parked vehicle. There were no

other accidents at these intersections and traffic volumes are low at all intersections. Commission recommended taking “No Action” on this and the following two items. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by M. Slife, Voted 7-2).

2. Request in the 13th Ward, from Henry Lee Jr., 701 Trenton Avenue, to establish traffic control at the intersection of Trenton Avenue and Hudson Street. (See above).
3. Request in the 13th Ward, from Henry Lee Jr., 701 Trenton Avenue, to establish traffic control at the intersection of Newport Avenue and Hudson Street. (See above).
4. Request in the 8th Ward, from Debra Manson, 2822 20th Street, to establish 4-way stop control at the intersection of 20th Street and Reed Avenue. (K. Lin stated that there have been numerous accidents at this intersection and several have damaged the requester’s fence. However, two of the accidents damaging the fence were not intersection-related. F. Lierman pointed out the disparity in the traffic volumes and that federal guidelines as well as numerous studies stress that 4-way stop controlled intersections are not recommended when this level of disparity exists. Commission recommended taking “No Action”. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by T. Fagen, Voted 9-0).

The Traffic Commission laid over the following items:

1. Request in the 3rd Ward, from Rosario Lara, 238 Guard Street, to establish a parking restriction of “No Parking Any Time” on the north side of Guard Street from Camp Avenue to Main Street. (Mr. Steve Lenox, Mrs. Amanda Lenox, Ms. Rosario Lara, and Ms. Kelly Kloppmann explained the situation affecting their driveways and parking on Guard Street. It appears that vehicles impacting the situation belong to residents who live along Main Street. Mr. Lenox suggested establishing M-F 6am-6pm restriction, and F. Lierman offered the option of a corner clearance of approximately 30 feet. J. Carter commented that a corner clearance would likely need to extend beyond 30 feet and that could impact the Lenox’s driveway. City staff will prepare exhibits showing different options for corner clearances. D. Peterson suggested that the residents contact Alderman Tuneberg to discuss what actions he can take to improve the issue. Commission recommended laying the item over to the April meeting. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by S. Capovilla, Voted 9-0).

Other Business:

1. J. Carter explained that he will no longer be attending Traffic Commission, but is still available for any concerns the members have. He will still be involved in the process of developing Rockford-specific stop sign warrant criteria to address local street intersections.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM. Motion by D. Peterson, seconded by S. Capovilla.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held:

April 14, 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