

ROCKFORD TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD  
Wednesday, April 14, 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. Todd Fagen  
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  
Mrs. Kerry Lin, Public Works Department

**Members Absent**

Mr. Dock Ward  
Mr. Cedrick Ketton, Rockford Mass Transit District  
Alderman Frank Beach, 10<sup>th</sup> Ward

**Also Present**

Ms. Valeri DeCastris, Ethnic Village Neighborhood Association  
Mr. Dan Beccue, Ethnic Village Neighborhood Association  
Mr. Sam Miller, Crusader Health  
Mr. Austin Marshburn, Bird Scooters  
Mr. Karl Franzen, Community Development Department  
Ms. Megan McNeill, Legal Department  
Mr. Jeremy Carter, Public Works Department  
Mr. Ebron Tyson, Information Technology Department

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

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

1. Request in the 3rd Ward, from Stephanie Buzzo, 204 S 1st Street, to repeal the existing parking restriction of "1 Hour Parking" on the east side of 1st Street from Oak Street to 200 feet north of Oak Street. (K. Lin explained that this request was made due in part to concerns from the 911 Call Center about staff's safety while walking to their vehicles. Commission recommended repealing the existing parking restriction of "1 Hour Parking" on the east side of 1st Street from Oak Street to 200 feet north of Oak Street. Motion by D. Bissell, seconded by D. Peterson, Voted 8-0).
2. Request in the 13th Ward, from Rockford Fire Station 1, to establish "No Parking Any Time" on the north side of Elm Street from Avon Street to Stanley Street. (Prior to the meeting, Mike Rotolo met with Crusader Clinic to discuss their concerns. The request was then revised to two shorter sections with the western restriction being established from the new mid-block Clinic entrance to 20' east of the entrance. Commission recommended establishing "No Parking Any Time" on the north side of Elm Street from 193' west of Avon Street to 173' west of Avon Street and from 65' west of Avon Street to Avon Street. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by M. Slife, Voted 8-0).

3. Request in the 2nd Ward, from Alderman Jonathan Logemann, to establish traffic control at the intersection of Hickory Lawn Drive and Lundvall Avenue. (The four requests along Hickory Lawn Drive were discussed together. A motion to take “No Action” was not seconded. All agreed that stop control was not warranted due to low traffic volumes. K. Lin pointed out that the north-south movements at all intersections had the higher volume. Commission recommended establishing 2-way yield control with the north-south streets of Lundvall Avenue, Highview Avenue, James Avenue, and Parkwood Avenue yielding for Hickory Lawn Drive. Motion by T. Fagen, seconded by J. DoBran, Voted 8-0).
4. Request in the 2nd Ward, from Alderman Jonathan Logemann, to establish traffic control at the intersection of Hickory Lawn Drive and Highview Avenue (see above).
5. Request in the 2nd Ward, from Alderman Jonathan Logemann, to establish traffic control at the intersection of Hickory Lawn Drive and James Avenue (see above).
6. Request in the 2nd Ward, from Alderman Jonathan Logemann, to establish traffic control at the intersection of Hickory Lawn Drive and Parkwood Avenue (see above).
7. Request in the 9th Ward, by Alderman Karen Hoffman, to establish “No Parking Any Time” on the west side of East Gate Parkway from Broadway to Colorado Avenue, thus extending the current parking restriction of “No Parking Any Time” on the west side of East Gate Parkway from Broadway to 135 feet south of Broadway. (K. Lin commented that the Commission approved “No Parking Any Time” along the east side of East Gate Parkway in this same block at the October Traffic Commission Meeting. F. Lierman explained the history behind the existing restriction near Broadway. Commission recommended establishing “No Parking Any Time” on the west side of East Gate Parkway from Broadway to Colorado Avenue, thus extending the current parking restriction of “No Parking Any Time” on the west side of East Gate Parkway from Broadway to 135 feet south of Broadway. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by D. Peterson, Voted 8-0).
8. Change to Chapter 16 of Rockford Code of Ordinances for Electric Scooters. (M. McNeill explained the requested ordinance change and the pilot program by Bird Scooters. Mr. Austin Marshburn explained that the pilot program will be within a specific zone of the City that is still being determined. This zone can be revised by the City depending on rider usage. Commission recommended approving the change to Chapter 16 of Rockford Code of Ordinances for Electric Scooters. Motion by D. Bissell, seconded by F. Lierman, Voted 8-0).

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

1. Request in the 3rd Ward, from Rosario Hernandez, 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. (City staff contacted Ms. Hernandez and was informed that the issue has been resolved. The requestor wanted to withdraw the request. Commission recommended taking “No Action”. Motion by K. Lin, seconded by F. Lierman, Voted 8-0).
2. Request in the 3rd Ward, from Valeri DeCastris and David Beccue, representing the Ethnic Village Neighborhood Association, to establish 2-way stop control on Madison Street at Y Boulevard. (K. Lin reminded the commission that this item was previously voted for “No Action” at the September Traffic Commission Meeting. Ms. Valeri DeCastris and Mr. David Beccue expressed their concern and commented that they have witnessed many near-miss accidents at this location. F. Lierman pointed out

that the predominant movements are not in conflict with each other. K. Lin said that the City will look into posting “Cross Traffic Does Not Stop” signs and striping lines delineating the turning movements. Commission recommended taking “No Action”. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by M. Rotolo, Voted 8-0).

3. Request in the 3rd Ward by Sue Kanthak, Executive Director of Jeremiah Development, to establish handicapped parking on the west side of Church Street from 50 feet south of Mulberry Street to 30 feet south of Mulberry Street, thus repealing the existing 1 Hour Parking restriction on the west side of Church Street from 50 feet south of Mulberry Street to 30 feet south of Mulberry Street. (K. Lin stated that this request was withdrawn by the requestor after the submittal of the agenda. Commission recommended taking “No Action”. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by S. Capovilla, Voted 8-0).

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 PM. Motion by D. Peterson, seconded by F. Lierman.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held:

**May 12, 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