

ROCKFORD TRAFFIC COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD
Wednesday, August 11, 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. Dock Ward
Mr. Todd Fagen
Mr. Mike Rotolo, Rockford Fire Department
Mr. Mike Slife, Transportation, School District 205
Mr. Ron Priddy, Rockford Mass Transit District
Mr. Scott Capovilla, Community Development Department
Mrs. Kerry Lin, Public Works Department

Members Absent

Mr. Tom Okite
Sgt. Jason DoBran, Rockford Police Department
Alderman Bill Rose, 9th Ward

Also Present

Alderman Jonathan Logemann, 2nd Ward

The minutes of the last regular meeting held on July 14, 2021, were approved as submitted.

The Traffic Commission recommended the following items:

1. Request in the 2nd Ward, by Alderman Jonathan Logemann, to establish traffic control on Rural Street at Parkview Avenue and Welty Avenue. (This item, previously item #7, was laid over from the July meeting. Alderman Logemann presented the request as well as a general overview of concerns related to the Rural Street corridor. K Lin explained that city staff is working with Alderman Logemann to determine implementation of traffic calming striping. At the July meeting, options were narrowed down to the following: No action, 3-way stop control at the Parkview intersection while maintaining the existing control at the Welty intersection (Option 1), and 2-way stop control on the “outside” of both intersections (Option 3). K. Lin stated that staff does not expect frequent impacts to the Rural / Welty intersection due to queues at the Rural / Parkview intersection caused by Option 1. D. Peterson asked whether there would be advanced warning signs and K. Lin replied that they could be installed. Commission recommended establishing 3-way stop control at the intersection of Parkview Avenue and Rural Street, thus repealing the existing stop control of Parkview Avenue stopping for Rural Street. The motion included installation of advanced signage. Motion by T. Fagen, seconded by D. Ward, Voted 8-0).
2. Request in the 3rd Ward, by Alderman Chad Tuneberg, to establish a parking restriction of “No Parking Any Time” on the west side of Cumberland Street from Auburn Street to 55 feet south of Auburn Street. (K. Lin explained that the residence impacted by this restriction has a parking

area along the alley. In addition, a survey was sent to this resident and no response was received. S. Capovilla commented that this restriction is consistent with other locations near intersections. Commission recommended establishing a parking restriction of “No Parking Any Time” on the west side of Cumberland Street from Auburn Street to 55 feet south of Auburn Street. Motion by T. Fagen, seconded by M. Rotolo, Voted 8-0).

3. Request in the 11th Ward, by Kristen Williams, 2207 10th Street, to establish traffic control at the intersection of 10th Street and 21st Avenue. (K. Lin stated that there were no accidents in the study period but that there is still a delay in getting current accident data. It was noted that there is a school bus stop near this location. In addition, the majority of nearby intersections have some sort of traffic control. Commission recommended establishing 2-way stop control of 10th Street stopping for 21st Avenue Motion by T. Fagen, seconded by R. Priddy, Voted 8-0).

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

1. Request in the 10th Ward, by Alderman Frank Beach, to establish an all-way stop at the intersection of Greenwood Avenue and Westchester Drive, thus repealing the existing traffic control of Greenwood Avenue stopping for Westchester Drive. (K. Lin commented that this item was brought to Traffic Commission in 2014 where it was voted for “No Action”. She detailed the two accidents in the study period and pointed out the “disregarding stop sign” was listed as a cause for both accidents. Crosswalks were installed on the north and east legs in 2020. D. Peterson expressed concern about pedestrians crossing this intersection due to the park. S. Capovilla also noted that it is a highly used park but that traffic volumes are very light. Commission recommended taking “No Action”. Motion by M. Rotolo, seconded by T. Fagen, Voted 7-1).

Other Business:

1. K. Lin asked for approval to move the October Traffic Commission to Wednesday, October 6th due to a schedule conflict. The Commission gave approval for the meeting to be rescheduled as requested.
2. The Traffic Commission elected the officers for the 2021 – 2022 Traffic Commission. D. Bissell was nominated and elected to Chairman by a vote of 8-0. T. Okite was nominated and elected to Vice Chairman by a vote of 9-0. There were no other nominations for either position.

The meeting adjourned at 6:37 PM. Motion by M. Rotolo, seconded by D. Ward.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held:

September 11, 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