

ROCKFORD TRAFFIC COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD
Wednesday, November 10, 2021, 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Kerry Lin at 6:03 PM.

Members Present

Ms. Dorien Peterson
Alderman Bill Rose, 9th Ward
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. Don Bissell, Chairman
Mr. Tom Okite, Vice Chairman
Mr. Ron Priddy, Rockford Mass Transit District
Mr. Dock Ward

Also Present

Mrs. Terri Odell, 2301 Cerro Vista Drive, 61107
Mr. Mike Odell, 2301 Cerro Vista Drive, 61107
Mr. Matt Cacci, 1011 Starview Drive, 61108
Mr. Terry Siebert, 5116 Carol Court, 61108
Mr. Loven J. Raymer, 1019 Starview Drive, 61108
Mr. Ted O'Donnell, 2660 Springdale Drive, 61114
Mrs. Shawntay Ellis, 3116 Maryland Road, 61108
Mrs. Marlo Slaughter, 2815 19th Avenue, 61108
Mr. Anthony Adams, 3328 Auburn Street, 61101
Mr. Rob Belles, 1001 E. Jefferson Street, 61107
Ms. Dawn Vanderhoof, 613 Foster Avenue, 61102
Alderman Gina Meeks, 12th Ward, 2319 Hancock Street, 61103
Ms. DeAndre Cossey, 824 Royal Avenue, 61101
Matthew Flores, Legal Department

The minutes of the last regular meeting held on October 6, 2021, were approved as submitted.

The Traffic Commission recommended the following items:

1. Request in the 3rd Ward, by Rob Belles, 2905 Creekside Court, to establish a parking restriction of "2-Hour Parking" on the south side of E. Jefferson Street from 40' east of Hall Street to 125' east of Hall Street. (This item, previously item #3, was laid over from the October meeting). (Rob Belles commented that there used to be a time restriction in this area and that he is concerned about business owners using the limited parking all day and making it difficult for customers to find parking. K. Lin explained that this restriction was removed in 2015. Commission recommended establishing a parking restriction of "2-Hour Parking" on the south

side of E. Jefferson Street from 40' east of Hall Street to 125' east of Hall Street. Motion by B. Rose, seconded by D. Peterson, Voted 7-0).

2. Request in the 13th Ward, by Aimee Creighton, Criminal Clerk; Circuit Clerk's office, to establish handicapped parking on the south side of Elm Street from 45' west of S. Court Street to 85' west of S. Court Street. (Code and Regulation Committee requested that this item (September item #2), be returned to Traffic Commission for reconsideration.) (K. Lin commented that this item was voted "No Action" at the October Traffic Commission but that the Code and Regulation Committee asked that the item be reviewed again. She explained that this item is related to the change in the handicap placard rules. Previously, any placard gave the owner the right to disregard time restrictions. Now that applies only to the highest level placard which the two employees do not hold. Commission recommended establishing handicapped parking on the south side of Elm Street from 45' west of S. Court Street to 85' west of S. Court Street. Motion by B. Rose, seconded by M. Rotolo, Voted 7-0).
3. Request for Amendment to the City of Rockford Code of Ordinances Section 16-149 (Trucks parking in certain designated areas). (Matt Flores explained the request as being a clarification of the existing ordinance. Several people spoke in support of the request as it related to their neighborhoods. Safety was a common concern mentioned. A few speakers raised the concern about the impact the amendment will have on small businesses and asked what options were available for trailer parking. S. Capovilla and Alderman Rose offered a few suggestions of who to contact to resolve these concerns. Commission recommended amending the City of Rockford Code of Ordinances Section 16-149 (Trucks parking in certain designated areas). Motion by M. Slife, seconded by M. Rotolo, Voted 7-0).
4. Request in the 13th Ward, Dawn Vanderhoof, 603 Foster Avenue, to establish traffic control at the intersection of Foster Avenue and Anderson Street. (Dawn Vanderhoof explained her request. She also commented that vegetation in the northeast corner sometimes causes visibility problems. K. Lin commented that she will send a request to the forestry department for some tree trimming in this area. It was noted that traffic volumes are lighter on Anderson Street. Commission recommended establishing yield control with Anderson Street yielding for Foster Avenue. Motion by D. Peterson, seconded by B. Rose, Voted 7-0).
5. Request in the 13th Ward, Shawna Young, 316 Bayliss Avenue, to establish traffic control at the intersection of Bayliss Avenue and Andrews Street. (K. Lin commented that there no accidents in the three year time period for which data is available but that there may have been recent accidents. She noted that traffic on Bayliss Avenue was higher than on Andrews Street. A majority of the surrounding intersections have some type of control. Commission recommended establishing yield control with Andrews Street yielding for Bayliss Avenue. Motion by B. Rose, seconded by D. Peterson, Voted 7-0).

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

1. Request in the 6th Ward, Yajaira Rivera, 2805 19th Street, to establish an all-way stop at the intersection of 19th Street and Wills Avenue, thus repealing the existing traffic control of Wills Avenue yielding for 19th Street. (K. Lin explained that traffic volumes are very light, there are no intersection-related accidents in the available information, and sight does not appear to be a problem. Commission recommended taking "No Action". Motion by J. DoBran, seconded by M. Rotolo, Voted 7-0).

2. Request in the 2nd Ward, by Mark Gallagher, 208 N Prospect, to establish “No Parking Any Time” on the west side of N. Prospect Street from Crosby Street to Prospect Court, thus repealing the existing restriction of “No Parking Any Time” on the west side of N. Prospect Street from Crosby Street to 50’ south of Crosby Street. (K. Lin explained the requestor’s concern about parked cars getting hit as southbound vehicles do not see them due to the hill. She commented that there are more appropriate ways to handle this problem and that City staff will be looking into these. It was also noted that removing parking could cause an increase in speeding problems. Commission recommended taking “No Action”. Motion by S. Capovilla, seconded by D. Peterson, Voted 7-0).

The Traffic Commission laid over the following item:

1. Request in the 2nd Ward, Dina Sipiora and Jesse Kelln, 223 N Prospect Street, to establish an all-way stop at the intersection of N. Prospect Street and Crosby Street, thus repealing the existing traffic control of Crosby Street stopping for N. Prospect Street. (K. Lin commented that the requestor was unable to make the meeting and asked that the item be laid over. Commission recommended that this item be laid to the January Traffic Commission. Motion by K. Lin, seconded by J. DoBran, Voted 7-0).

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

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held:

January 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