

ROCKFORD TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD

Wednesday, April 16, 2014, 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairman Mr. Fred Lierman at 6:02 PM.

**Members Present**

Mr. Fred Lierman, Vice Chairman  
Mr. Leland Carlson  
Mr. Dock Ward  
Mr. Gregg Wilson, Transportation, School District 205  
Mr. Colin Belle, Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning  
Mr. Tim Morris, Rockford Fire Department  
Lieutenant Patrick Hoey, Rockford Police Department  
Mr. Thaddeus Mack, Community Development Department  
Mr. Jeremy Carter, Public Works Department

**Members Absent**

Mr. George Zawislak, Chairman  
Mr. Vince McLean, Rockford Mass Transit District  
Alderman John Beck, 12<sup>th</sup> Ward

**Also Present**

Ms. Maria Mendia, 3534 Normandy Ave, 61103  
Mrs. Katy Gregg, 3536 Normandy Ave, 61103  
Mrs. Yvonne Dismuke, 818 Trenton Avenue, 61102  
Ms. Billie J. Holt, 808 Cambridge Avenue, 61102  
Mr. Darrel Smith, 4111 Eastridge Drive, 61107  
Mrs. Carole Smith, 4111 Eastridge Drive, 61107  
Mrs. Karissa Cook, 4117 Eastridge Drive, 61107  
Ms. Monica Sago, 2401 River Oaks Lane #2, 61102

The minutes of the last regular meeting held on March 12, 2014 were approved as submitted.

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

1. Request in the 5<sup>th</sup> Ward, from Alderman Venita Hervey, to establish “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction on both sides of River Oaks Lane from South Main Street to 70 feet east of South Main Street. (Ms. Sago discussed she was in favor of removing parking at the entrance and exit to the development. Commission discussed that there was parking for the units behind them. Commission discussed parking near the entrance and exit made entering the development difficult and created a traffic issue. Commission recommended establishing a “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction on both sides of River Oaks Lane from South Main Street to 70 feet east of South Main Street. Motion by G. Wilson, seconded by D. Ward. Voted 8-0)

2. Request in the 10<sup>th</sup> Ward, from City Staff and Alderman Beach, to establish “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction on the north side of Eastridge Drive from 700 feet west of Alpine Drive to Wood Road. (Mr. and Mrs. Smith both discussed difficulty driving down the street when cars are parked on both sides and that they were in favor of the restriction. Ms. Cook discussed that she was against the restriction, because she questioned where the cars would now park and she believed they would start to park in surrounding neighborhood. Commission discussed that it is difficult to drive through street when cars are parked on both sides. G. Wilson discussed that busses had a difficult time using the street especially when snow was on the ground. J. Carter discussed that the neighborhood president was going to talk to the apartment owners about striping their parking lots, so parking could be more efficient. Commission recommended establishing a “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction on the north side of Eastridge Drive from 700 feet west of Alpine Drive to Wood Road. Motion by L. Carlson, seconded by T. Morris. Voted 8-0)
3. Request in the 13<sup>th</sup> Ward, from Alderman McNeely, to establish “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction in the cul-de-sacs of Trenton Avenue, Hartford Avenue, Cambridge Avenue, and Newport Avenue. (Ms. Holt spoke to the Commission about issue she has had with Head Start busses not coming down her street due to parking in the cul-de-sac. Commission discussed separating the four requests and voting individually. Commission recommended establishing a “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction in the cul-de-sacs of Cambridge Avenue. Motion by G. Wilson, seconded by L. Carlson. Voted 8-0)
4. Request in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ward, from Mr. Jim Marlow, 2218 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, to establish traffic control at the intersection of 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 19<sup>th</sup> Street. (Commission discussed the three accidents that occurred at the intersection. Commission discussed taking the step to establish vehicular right of way at the intersection. Commission recommended establishing traffic control of 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue yielding for 19<sup>th</sup> Street. Motion by T. Morris, seconded by L. Carlson. Voted 8-0)

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

1. Request in the 6<sup>th</sup> Ward, from Alderman Marcus Hill, to establish all way stop at the intersection of Chesterfield Avenue and Bluffside Drive, thus repealing the existing Bluffside Drive stopping for Chesterfield Avenue. (Commission discussed that the intersection was already a two way stop. Commission discussed that the intersection had low accident history, low traffic volumes and did not meet warrants for an all way stop. Commission recommended No Action. Motion by L. Carlson, seconded by D. Ward. Voted 8-0).
2. Request in the 11<sup>th</sup> Ward, from A&M Foods owner, 425 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue, to establish 15 minute parking on the south side of 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue from 40 feet east of Birch Court to 70 feet east of Birch Court, thus repealing the existing “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction. (Commission discussed that there is not enough room for parking and drive lane along roadway. Commission recommended No Action. Motion by D. Ward, seconded by C. Belle. Voted 8-0).

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

1. Request in the 12<sup>th</sup> Ward, from Mrs. Katie Gregg, 3536 Normandy Avenue, 61103, to repeal the “No Parking Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.” parking restriction on the west side of Normandy Avenue from Belmont Boulevard to River Bluff Boulevard, thus restoring unrestricted parking. (Mrs. Gregg and Ms. Mendia discussed their hardships with crossing the roadway due to traffic and snow. Mrs. Gregg again discussed a petition signed by people from the apartment building on the east side of Normandy Avenue. J. Carter discussed that Post Office would not consolidate mailboxes and he wanted to send letter out to residents giving them one more chance to speak to Commission. Commission laid item over until May. Motion by L. Carlson, seconded by D. Ward. Voted 8-0)
2. Request in the 13<sup>th</sup> Ward, from Alderman McNeely, to establish “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction in the cul-de-sacs of Trenton Avenue, Hartford Avenue, Cambridge Avenue, and Newport Avenue. (Ms. Dismuke spoke to the Commission about being against the parking restriction. She stated that her neighborhood is close and there are no problems with parking on the street. J. Carter asked her to coordinate with her alderman before Commission took action in May. Commission laid Trenton Avenue, Hartford Avenue and Newport Avenue over until May. Motion by L. Carlson, seconded by T. Morris. Voted 8-0)
3. Request in the 8th Ward, from Mr. Russell Doty, to establish all-way stop control at the intersection of West Gate Parkway and Colorado Avenue, thus repealing the existing West Gate Parkway stopping for Colorado Avenue. (Commission discussed low accident history and vehicle volumes. G. Wilson discussed that there are more pedestrians since the return of neighborhood schools. Commission discussed that normal traffic counts are done before school drop off and after school pick up. Commission laid item over until May, so staff could do traffic counts during more appropriate drop off and pick up time. Motion by G. Wilson, seconded by L. Carlson. Voted 8-0)

The meeting adjourned at 7:07 PM. Motion by J. Carter, seconded by T. Morris.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held:

**May 14, 2014 6:00 PM.**

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

Respectfully submitted,  
Jeremy Carter  
Recording Secretary