

ROCKFORD TRAFFIC COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD

Wednesday, May 13, 2015, 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Mr. Leland Carlson at 6:03 PM.

Members Present

Mr. Leland Carlson, Chairman
Mr. Fred Lierman
Mr. Dock Ward
Mr. Gregg Wilson, Transportation, School District 205
Mr. Colin Belle, Rockford Metropolitan Agency for Planning
Sergeant Mark Jacobi, Rockford Police Department
Mr. Scott Capovilla, Community Development Department
Mr. Jeremy Carter, Public Works Department

Members Absent

Mr. George Zawislak, Vice Chairman
Mr. Vince McLean, Rockford Mass Transit District
Mr. Tim Morris, Rockford Fire Department
Alderman Teena Newburg, 9th Ward

Also Present

Mr. Scott Donnelly, 3204 North View Road, 61107
Mrs. Roxanne Donnelly, 3204 North View Road, 61107
Ms. Diane Conklin, 3307 North View Road, 61107
Mr. Chris Manuel, 200 Prairie Street, 61107
Mr. Ed McCullough, 223 Regan Street, 61107
Mr. Chad Louis, 512 North 2nd Street, 61107
Mr. Tim Hinkens, Public Works Department

The minutes of the last regular meeting held on April 8, 2015 were approved as submitted.

The Traffic Commission recommended the following items:

1. Request in the 3rd Ward, by City staff, to establish “2-Hour” parking restriction on the east side of Water Street from Market Street to 150 feet south of Market Street, thus repealing the existing “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction from Market Street to 150 feet south of Market Street. (Commission discussed request for “2 Hour Parking” and Angle parking at same time. J. Carter explained both requests were due to changes near the roadway from the new parking lot to the east of the requested area. Commission recommended establishing “2-Hour” parking restriction on the east side of Water Street from Market Street to 150 feet south of Market Street, thus repealing the existing “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction from Market Street to 150 feet south of Market Street.. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by D.Ward. Voted 7-0)

2. Request in the 3rd Ward, by City staff, to establish “Angle Parking” on the east side of Water Street from Market Street to 150 feet south of Market Street, thus repealing the existing “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction from Market Street to 150 feet south of Market Street. (Commission recommended establishing “Angle Parking” on the east side of Water Street from Market Street to 150 feet south of Market Street, thus repealing the existing “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction from Market Street to 150 feet south of Market Street. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by D. Ward. Voted 7-0)
3. Request in the 3rd Ward, by Michelle Klaman, to establish a “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction on the west side of 3rd Street from Market Street to 100 feet south of Market Street, thus repealing the existing “3 Hour” parking restriction on the west side 3rd Street from Market Street to State Street. (J. Carter discussed the sight distance issue from cars on Market seeing vehicles traveling north bound on 3rd Street. Commission discussed the request would remove two parking spaces on the west side of 3rd Street. Commission recommended establishing a “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction on the west side of 3rd Street from Market Street to 100 feet south of Market Street, thus repealing the existing “3 Hour” parking restriction on the west side 3rd Street from Market Street to State Street. Motion by G. Wilson, seconded by J. Carter. Voted 7-0)
4. Request in the 5th Ward, from City staff, to establish “No Parking Any Time” on both sides of Main Street from Green Street to Chestnut Street, thus repealing the existing “2-Hour” parking restriction from Green Street to Chestnut Street. Commission discussed request for “No Parking Any Time” and repeal of One-Way Traffic Designation at same time. J. Carter explained plans my IDOT and City to vacate IL Rt 2 on Wyman and place it on Main Street. He explained this would require two-way traffic where there is currently a one-way “slip” lane and the removal of on-street parking from Green Street to Chestnut Street due the new configuration of the roadway. Commission also discussed support of Functional Classification change of Main Street from Cedar Street to Chestnut Street from Local Street to Other Principal Arterial and change of Wyman Street from Cedar Street to Chestnut Street from Other Principal Arterial to Local Street. Commission recommended establishing “No Parking Any Time” on both sides of Main Street from Green Street to Chestnut Street, thus repealing the existing “2-Hour” parking restriction from Green Street to Chestnut Street. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by C. Belle. Voted 7-0)
5. Request in the 5th and 13th Wards, by City staff, to repeal the north bound One Way traffic designation on Main Street from Cedar Street to Green Street, thus re-establishing two way traffic flow. Commission recommended establishing two-way traffic on Main Street from Cedar Street to Green Street, thus repealing the existing one-way traffic restriction. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by C. Belle. Voted 7-0)

6. Request in the 12th Ward, by Scott Donnelly, 3204 N View Road, to establish traffic control at the intersection of North View Road and Harris Drive. (Mr. Donnelly and Ms. Conklin both discussed the two accidents at the intersection this year and the lack of visibility when approaching North View Road from either direction on Harris Drive. J. Carter discussed concern that stopping or yielding Harris Drive for North View Road could cause an issue with vehicles stopping in the winter. Commission recommended establishing traffic control of Harris Drive yielding to North View Drive. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by J. Carter. Voted 7-0)

7. Request in the 9th Ward, from Alderman Teena Newburg, to establish traffic traffic control at the intersection of Packard Parkway and City View Road. (Commission discussed this is a “T” intersection. Commission discussed possible yield sign on City View Road, but ultimately thought stop sign would be more proper. Commission recommended establishing traffic control of City View Drive stopping for Packard Parkway. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by J. Carter. Voted 7-0)

8. Request in the 5th Ward, from City staff, to establish permit parking in Lot 29 near the intersection of South Main Street and Morgan Street. (J. Carter explained the lot is currently only signed for “2 Hour” parking and there had been a request to buy permits. Commission discussed letting staff determine quantity of permit spaces based on need of permits. Commission recommended establishing permit parking in Lot 29. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by D. Ward. Voted 7-0)

9. Street Light Requests
 - a. Request in the 3rd Ward, from Alderman Thomas McNamara, for additional street lighting along Madison Street, from State Street to 500 Madison Street. (Mr. Manuel and Mr. McCullough both spoke about how dark they thought Madison Street was and the number of pedestrian walking from the Brew House restaurant to the downtown. Mr. McCullough discussed the downtown implementation planning and the planner’s emphasis on “A” Street which includes State Street, Main Street and Madison Street. G. Wilson questioned the standards per which these decisions can be made. J. Carter answered that the standards are unclear and that the clear standards have already been reviewed and not met and this is the reason it is before the Traffic Commission. Commission discussed having Staff work with requestor on the number of lights to be installed. Commission approved the installation of between 4 and 6 lights on Madison Street from State Street to Prairie Street. Motion by S. Capovilla, seconded by F. Lierman. Voted 6-1)

 - b. Request in the 7th Ward, from Carol Griswold, for additional street lighting on the 1000 block of N Winnebago Street. (Commission discussed removing one of three lights close to the intersection of Winnebago Street and Bruce Street. Commission approved installing 1 additional light in the 1000 block of North Winnebago Street. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by C. Belle. Voted 6-1)

- c. Request in the 3rd Ward, from Alderman Thomas McNamara, for additional street lighting on the 700 block of N 1st Street. (Commission discussed removing one of lights from alley between Madison Street and 1st Street. Commission approved installing 1 additional light in the 700 block of North 1st. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by S. Capovilla. Voted 7-0)

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

1. Request in the 14th Ward, by Alderman Joseph Chiarelli, to establish a “No Parking Any Time” parking restriction on the south side of Hinsdale Avenue from Forest View Road to Eggleston Court. (Item laid over from April Traffic Commission Meeting). (J. Carter discussed item was laid over to allow more residents to submit survey responses. Commission discussed all responses wanted parking to be left “as is”. Commission recommended taking no action. Motion by G. Wilson, seconded by D. Ward. Voted 7-0)
2. Request in the 2nd Ward, from Heather Kranish, to establish “No Parking Any Time” on the north side of 1st Avenue from 170 feet west of 12th Street to 200 feet west of 12th Street. (Commission discussed the requestor had complained of her ally being blocked and not being able to get out. Commission discussed that there are two ways out of alley that may be getting blocked and signs stating not to block the alley had been installed. Commission discussed that staff had not actually seem the parking issue. Commission recommended taking no action. Motion by C. Belle, seconded by F. Lierman. Voted 7-0)

The Traffic Commission laid over the following items:

1. Election of officers for 2015-2016 Rockford Traffic Commission. (Item laid over to allow all Citizen Members to be present)

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 PM. Motion by J. Carter, seconded by D. Ward.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held:

June 10, 2015 6:00 PM.

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

Respectfully submitted,
Jeremy A. Carter, P.E.
Recording Secretary