

ROCKFORD TRAFFIC COMMISSION
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD

Wednesday, April 11, 2018, 6:00 PM

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

Members Present

Mr. Fred Lierman, Chairman

Mr. Todd Fagen

Alderman Tuffy Quinonez, 11th Ward

Mr. Mike Slife, Transportation, School District 205

Sgt. David Nicosia, Rockford Police Department

Mike Rotolo, Rockford Fire Department

Mr. Scott Capovilla, Community Development Department

Mr. Jeremy Carter, Public Works Department

Members Absent

Mr. Dock Ward, Vice Chairman

Mr. Don Bissell

Mr. Michael Smith

Mr. Vince McLean, Rockford Mass Transit District

Also Present

Alderman Chad Tuneberg, 3rd Ward

Mrs. Marianna Peterson, 1207 Chelsea Avenue, 61107

Mrs. Lorie Langen, 1504 Harlem Blvd, 61103

Mr. Bob Campbell, 1146 Broadway, 61104

Mr. Ken Wheeler, 1129 Chelsea Avenue, 61107

Mrs. Patricia Wheeler, 1129 Chelsea Avenue, 61107

Mrs. Kerry Lin, Public Works Department

The minutes of the last regular meeting held on March 14, 2018 were approved as submitted.

The Traffic Commission recommended the following items:

1. Request in the 3rd Ward, from City Staff, to establish a No Parking Any Time parking restriction on the south side of Jefferson Street from 3rd Street to 2nd Street, thus removing the unrestricted parking. (Commission discussed that new gas station would provide parking on-site and the on-street parking is no longer needed. Commission recommended establishing a No Parking Any Time parking restriction on the south side of Jefferson Street from 3rd Street to 2nd Street, thus removing the unrestricted parking. Motion by S. Capovilla, seconded by M. Rotolo, Voted 7-0)

2. Request in the 3rd Ward, from Alderman Chad Tuneberg, to establish a 3-hour parking restriction on both sides of Market Street from Madison Street to 160 feet west of Madison Street, thus repealing the existing 2 Hour Parking on the north side of Market Street from Madison Street to 160 feet west of Madison Street. (Ald. Tuneberg discussed the recent change of ownership of buildings in the area and his support for the change of parking time limits. Commission recommended establishing a 3-hour parking restriction on both sides of Market Street from Madison Street to 160 feet west of Madison Street, thus repealing the existing 2 Hour Parking on the north side of Market Street from Madison Street to 160 feet west of Madison Street. Motion by T. Fagen, seconded by T. Quinonez , Voted 7-0)

3. Request in the 12th Ward, from Diane Conklin, 3307 North View Road, to establish traffic control at the intersection of North View Road and Westbrook Drive. (Commission discussed this was a “T” intersection and a yield sign would clarify state law right-of-way at a “T” intersection. Commission recommended establishing traffic control of Westbrook Drive yielding for North View Road. Motion by J. Carter, seconded by T. Quinonez, Voted 7-0)

4. Request in the 12th Ward, from Diane Conklin, 3307 North View Road, to establish traffic control at the intersection of Harris Road and Westbrook Drive. (Commission discussed while there was no accident history, establishing who has right-of-way was a good idea. Commission recommended establishing traffic control of Westbrook Drive yielding for Harris Road. Motion by J. Carter, seconded by T. Fagen, Voted 7-0)

5. Request in the 11th Ward, from Bob Campbell, of Zion Development Corporation, to repeal the 2-hour parking restriction on the east side of 8th Street from Broadway to 125 feet north of Broadway. (Mr. Campbell discussed that the spaces were underutilized and there is no need for vehicle turn over in that area. Commission recommended repealing the 2-hour parking restriction on the east side of 8th Street from Broadway to 125 feet north of Broadway, thus reestablishing unrestricted parking. Motion by J. Carter, seconded by D. Nicosia, Voted 7-0)

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

1. Request in the 3rd Ward, from Aaron Traum, 3610 Brendenwood Road, to establish an all-way stop at the intersection of Chelsea Avenue and Brendenwood Road, thus repealing the existing traffic control of Brendenwood Road stopping for Chelsea Avenue. (Mrs. Peterson and Mr. Wheeler both spoke about their concerns of accidents and speeding at the intersection and along the street. Ald. Tuneberg discussed his support for the citizen request and wanting to see something done at the intersection. F. Lierman spoke about stop sign warrants and possible issues from installing unwarranted stop signs. T. Fagen spoke about possible traffic calming for the area. J. Carter discussed that the City has a poor policy for traffic calming and that he wants to improve it. He stated he wanted to use this intersection to test some temporary traffic calming that can be used to help make decisions, would allow the neighborhood to have an opinion but also show other departments how traffic calming could work.

Commission recommended taking “No Action”. Commission recommended City Staff look at implementing traffic calming. Motion by T. Quinonez, seconded by T. Fagen. Voted 7-0)

Other items:

1. J. Carter introduced the Traffic Commission to Kerry Lin, the new Assistant Traffic Engineer for the City of Rockford.
2. J. Carter announced that former Traffic Commission member George Zawislak had passed away. Mr. Zawislak was a member of the traffic commission from 1985 to 2016.

The meeting adjourned at 6:56 PM. Motion by T. Fagen, seconded by J. Carter.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held:

May 9, 2018 6:00 PM.

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

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