

ROCKFORD TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD

Wednesday, March 13, 2019, 6:00 PM

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dock Ward at 6:00 PM.

**Members Present**

Mr. Dock Ward, Chairman  
Mr. Fred Lierman, Vice Chairman  
Mr. Don Bissell  
Mr. Todd Fagen  
Mr. Michael Smith  
Mr. Mike Slife, Transportation, School District 205  
Mr. Cedrick Ketton, Rockford Mass Transit District  
Mr. Mike Rotolo, Rockford Fire Department  
Sgt. David Nicosia, Rockford Police Department  
Mr. Jeremy Carter, Public Works Department

**Members Absent**

Alderman Joseph Chiarelli, 14<sup>th</sup> Ward  
Mr. Scott Capovilla, Community Development Department

**Also Present**

Alderman Chad Tuneberg, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward  
Ms. Stella L. Adams, 423 Rome Avenue, 61107  
Ms. Valeri DeCastis, 4021 Guilford Road, 61107  
Mr. David Beccue, 4021 Guilford Road, 61107  
Mr. Kerry Partridge, Legal Department  
Mrs. Kerry Lin, Public Works Department

The minutes of the last regular meeting held on January 9, 2019 were approved as submitted.  
There was no February meeting.

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

1. Request in the 2nd Ward, by Alderman Jonathan Logemann, to establish No Parking Any Time parking restriction on one side of Guilford Road from Parkview Avenue to Alpine Road, for the purpose of establishing a designated bike lane on Guilford Road from Prospect Street to Alpine Road. (Ald. Tuneberg opened the discussion by stating that a bike lane on Guilford Road can accomplish two goals: increase bike accessibility and provide a means of traffic calming. Guilford Road is presently signed as a bike route but because of its width, striped bike lanes can fit if parking is removed from one side. It was pointed out that there generally does not appear to be a lot of demand for on-street parking. Providing these lanes would have the effect of narrowing the roadway which studies show can have a traffic calming effect with regard to speed reduction. Valeri DeCastis expressed her opposition to the restriction and asked why Guilford Road would be chosen over Brendenwood Road. She pointed out that Bloom School is along Brendenwood Road and that students might use a bike facility to access the school. David Beccue also asked about Brendenwood Road. He also discussed that there may be pedestrian traffic in the bike lanes due to stretches of Guilford Road where sidewalk doesn't exist. T. Fagen discussed that Brendenwood Road is not wide enough to accommodate striped bike lanes. J. Carter explained that Guilford Road provides for connectivity to downtown via other bike routes that exist and are planned for the future. It also increases the level of comfort between bicycle and vehicular traffic which is a benefit for all users. A survey was sent out to residents along Guilford Road and of those who responded and were in favor of the restriction, a majority preferred putting the restriction on the south side. In addition, the majority of those selecting the south side also lived on the south side. Commission discussed that based on the responses to the surveys there had not been a clear mandate from citizens. Commission recommended establishing a No Parking Any Time parking restriction on the south side of Guilford Road from Parkview Avenue to Alpine Road, for the purpose of establishing a designated bike lane on Guilford Road from Prospect Street to Alpine Road. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by M. Rotolo, Voted 9-0).
2. Request in the 2nd Ward, by Alderman Jonathan Logemann, to establish No Parking Any Time parking restriction on one side of Rome Avenue from State Street to Rural Street. (Rome Avenue is a narrow city street, measuring 22' in width. Providing parking on both sides of the street makes two-way traffic as well as snowplowing difficult. Stella Adams asked that the No Parking Any Time parking restriction be placed on the east side due to concerns she has about cars blocking her walkway. Commission discussed fire hydrants were located on the west side of road but signage could be placed to ensure cars do not park in front of hydrants without significant loss of spaces. Placing the restriction on the west side was slightly preferred but it was pointed out that there is an existing No Parking Any Time parking restriction on the east side of Rome Avenue between E. State Street and Crosby Street. Continuing the restriction on the east side would be more consistent with this existing restriction. Commission recommended establishing a No Parking Any Time parking restriction on the east side of Rome Avenue from Crosby Street to Rural Street. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by T. Fagen, Voted 9-0)

3. Request in the 6th Ward, from Michael Pehl of Hampton Properties, to establish No Parking Any Time parking restriction on the north side of Lund Avenue stop from Hampton Ridge Drive to 900 feet east of Hampton Ridge Drive, thus establishing No Parking Any Time parking restriction on the north side of Lund Avenue from 950 feet west of Hampton Ridge Drive to 900 feet east of Hampton Ridge Drive. (J. Carter pointed out that there is already a No Parking Any Time parking restriction west of Hampton Ridge Drive and that the property management requested this restriction be extended to the cul-de-sac east of Holiday Drive. There appears to be enough off-street parking to meet the demand. Commission recommended establishing a No Parking Any Time parking restriction on the north side of Lund Avenue stop from Hampton Ridge Drive to 900 feet east of Hampton Ridge Drive, thus establishing No Parking Any Time parking restriction on the north side of Lund Avenue from 950 feet west of Hampton Ridge Drive to 900 feet east of Hampton Ridge Drive. Motion by F. Lierman, seconded by J. Carter, Voted 9-0)

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

1. Request in the 10th Ward, by Jason Martin, to establish traffic control at the intersection of Skyline Drive and Medford Drive. (Commission discussed that the intersection has a low traffic volume and no reported history of accidents. Commission recommended taking “No Action”. Motion by D. Bissell, seconded by M. Smith, Voted 9-0)

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

1. Request in the 2nd Ward, by Alderman Jonathan Logemann, to establish No Parking Any Time parking restriction on one side of Prospect Street from Rural Street to Crosby Street, for the purpose of establishing a designated bike lane on Prospect Street from Rural Street to Crosby Street. (J. Carter stated that the roadway width has not been able to be measured due to snow accumulation and that it is possible that the roadway is not wide enough to accommodate a bike lane. Commission laid over the item so that this measurement can be made.)

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM. Motion by T. Fagen, seconded by F. Lierman.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be held:

**April 10, 2019 6:00 PM.**

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

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