

### **Parking and Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes**

Date of Meeting: Thursday, March 19, 2015 at 5:15pm, in the Birch Room at City Hall  
Members Present: Abitz{C}, Winters {VC}, Kellbach, Mielke (Nutting absent)  
Others Present: Lt. Pekarske, Alfonso, Wesolowski, Friday, Dan & Jodi Hansen

In accordance with Chapter 19, Wisconsin Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and sent to the Daily Herald in the proper manner. It was noted that there was a quorum present and the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Abitz at 5:20 pm.

#### **(1) Minutes of the Prior Meeting – 02/19/2015**

Motion by Mielke, second by Winters, to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2015 meeting.

Motion carried 4-0.

#### **(2) Discussion and possible action: On the proposal for the creation of parking spaces on City property (Community Gardens) along the 1500 block of N 1<sup>st</sup> Street and the 100 block of Dekalb Street.**

Discussion:

Wesolowski indicated that he has been unable to meet with Ann Werth from Community Development to discuss the proposals outlined at the February meeting because Ann has been on vacation.

Motion by Winters, second by Mielke to table this item until the next meeting.

Motion carried 4-0

#### **(3) Discussion and possible action: On the installation of a stop sign for northbound traffic on N. 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue at Strowbridge Street.**

Discussion:

Wesolowski indicated that he received a call from a resident who lives on 10<sup>th</sup> Ave. and is concerned that this is a dangerous intersection because there is only one stop sign.

Lt. Pekarske stated that this is one of the last intersections in the City that is not completely traffic controlled in one direction.

The committee also discussed other possible locations for placement of stop signs in this area.

Wesolowski said that since most traffic is going west on Strowbridge and turning left it would make the most sense to keep that traffic flowing and put the stop sign on N. 10<sup>th</sup> Ave.

Motion by Winters, second by Mielke to install a stop sign for northbound traffic on N. 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue at Strowbridge Street.

Motion carried 4-0

**(4) Discussion Item Only: Review the intersection of the US-51 northbound off-ramp at W. Bridge Street to discuss visibility issues and safety concerns.**

Resident Jodi Hansen indicated that she brought this item to the committee because of safety concerns she has regarding this area. She is requesting accident statistics for this area also.

Lt. Pekarske stated that there have been 21 crashes at this location in the past 12 months. All were rear-end crashes. All the crashes were attributed to inattentive driving or following too closely. He noted that there is a significant volume of traffic in the area which contributes to the number of crashes as well. The current signage is legal and properly placed. He also said that this area is a State highway interchange intersection so the City has no control over how it is signed or signal. The City can ask the State to review it and possibly consider a traffic control turn lane or a stop sign for this location. However, he noted that neither of those solutions absolve a driver of responsibility to be attentive and make sure the vehicle in front of you has cleared the intersection.

Wesolowski offered to send an email to the Traffic Safety Engineer at the DOT requesting the State review this intersection and see if any changes should be made. The committee agreed.

**(5) Discussion Item Only: Information on the Newman school traffic back-ups occurring on W. Bridge Street.**

Discussion:

Abitz stated that she brought this item to the committee because she encountered this situation while driving and because of a current newspaper article regarding the issue.

Lt. Pekarske said the Newman school has a committee in place to re-design their parking lot to move their pick-up/drop-off area to the north side and to access from Quaw St. The area along the school would be reserved for busses. They hope to have a plan in place by summer. Regardless of the changes there will likely still be 10-15 minutes per day of traffic congestion in that area.

**(6) Future Agenda Items**

**(7) Communications:**

None

**(8) Adjournment:**

Motion by Winters, second by Mielke to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 5:45 p.m.