

****MINUTES****
MAYOR'S ADVISORY TRAFFIC COMMISSION
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2020

The Mayor's Advisory Traffic Commission met at the James J. Eagan Center, Room 3, on Tuesday, November 10, 2020, at 7:00 p.m., with Zach Schneider presiding.

Members present were: Donna Smith-Pupillo (Ward 1), Greg Keil (Ward 4), Pete Fischer (Ward 6), Zach Schneider (Ward 7), and Kim Redden (Ward 9). Also present were Jason Timme, Street Department; and MaryAnn Fitzpatrick, Recording Clerk. Teri Reiter (Ward 5) was excused. Don Adams (Ward 2), Mike Mott (Ward 3), Allen Bluiett (Ward 8) and the Police Department were absent.

A quorum being present the chair declared the Traffic Commission was in session for the transaction of business.

Minutes of the August 11, 2020 meeting were approved as published. The September 8, 2020 meeting was canceled due to the lack of Agenda items and the October 13, 2020 meeting was canceled due to the lack of a quorum.

UNDER OLD BUSINESS:

All old business was addressed and dropped from the Agenda at the August 11, 2020 meeting.

UNDER NEW BUSINESS:

**07/20 REQUEST THREE-WAY STOP SIGNS AT WINSTED AND LOEKES AND ALSO
 AT ROANOKE AND LOEKES
 Postponed until December 8, 2020
 Ward 2**

Request was made to place stop signs on Winsted and Loekes and also at Roanoke and Loekes to create three-way stop intersections to slow speeding vehicles. See e-mail from Councilman Manganelli, August 4, 2020. It was stated that this item was reviewed and denied at the December 17th meeting because it did not meet the criteria of the stop sign warrant. Donna Smith-Pupillo and Kim Redden said they remember that. Kim Redden said that this is something we have already reviewed. She said she also noticed that Loekes is a designated double fine zone. She said it is clear and there are no sight obstructions or a lot of traffic through there. She said she was on that street for about 15 minutes the other night and there were only two cars, and one of them was hers. It was noted that the request said they want stop signs for speeding and we don't put up stop signs for speeding issues. Kim Redden said it just doesn't meet the criteria. Zach Schneider said he went there last month prior to our previous meeting and spoke with three residents. He said they were all in favor of the stop signs. He said he knows it is not part of the criteria, and he didn't notice a lot of cars going by but there were a few. He said there was an accident a couple of years ago where a car was going so fast that he didn't even stop and ran right into a house at the very end of Loekes causing extensive damage to the home and injuries to the people driving the car. He said he would like to suggest that instead of

putting in stop signs at those intersections, whereas they already have yield signs coming in, he would suggest putting in speed bumps at those intersections. He said right at the bump put up a sign that alerts the snow plows that there is a bump there. Greg Keil said the issue of speed bumps has come up before and he knows the fire department does not like them.

Donna Smith-Pupillo said that if speeding is the issue, can we ask the Police Department to do what they have done in the past and put the digital signs up to see what exactly the speeds are and when the speeding occurs and what is going on up there. She said she thinks that's a way to find out exactly what is going on like they did on St. Denis. She said they have done that before on some of the streets and that really provides a way to let us know how fast people are going and lets the traffic people know that too. She asked if we could ask the police to put the digital signs up there and provide us with the traffic data so we could make an informed decision. It was also stated that if the guy was speeding and ran the stop sign and ran into the house, putting up more stop signs is not going to stop that. Zach Schneider said that was just one incident, but it was an incident that all of those residents he talked to spoke about. Kim Redden asked if it was a closed off loop. Zach Schneider said no. It is a cut-through from there over to Lindsay. He said to be honest, it is not a really good cut-through. Everyone agreed. Jason Timme said if you were cutting through you wouldn't be going all the way down Loekes. You would probably come in Ocala and then wind around there. He said he thinks the problem with that street is that it is just dead straight the whole way. Zach Schneider said it is a very good long straightaway.

Jason Timme said he knows we don't want to do stop signs for speed control, but this may be an exception to that rule just because it is fairly spread out between those streets and it is just a dead straightaway. He said he doesn't know how much it would be of an inconvenience for anyone if

the stop signs were there. Kim Redden said the guy who lives on Winsted, his driveway would be right there. She asked Zach Schneider if he had talked to that resident. He said he may have talked to him, but didn't remember. Kim Redden asked where would the stop sign actually go if we did put one up there since his driveway is right there. She said there are no sight obstructions and she didn't see a whole lot of traffic. Greg Keil said there is nothing there to block visibility or anything. Donna Smith-Pupillo said that is why she was wondering if we could get a reading on how much speeding is going down this street. Jason Timme said he definitely doesn't think it is going to help the speeding to put the stop signs up there. There was some discussion as to where the stop sign would go if you put one on Winsted since the resident's driveway is right there at the intersection. Zach Schneider said he agrees that it doesn't really fit the criteria for speed control. We're really not supposed to use stop signs for speed control, so that's why he thought of speed bumps. Kim Redden and Donna Smith-Pupillo said they would really like to see more data to see how much traffic goes through there, the volume of it, and the speed. Jason Timme said he is sure they could put the signs up there if we request it. Zach Schneider asked if it was possible to get two of them – one facing each direction. Jason Timme said he didn't know, but we could ask. Kim Redden also asked about decoy cars. Jason Timme said they are out all the time but where they put them is anyone's guess. Pete Fischer asked how long does it take to collect that data. Jason Timme said the data is instant, it just depends on how much data we want and if the signs are available. We would just like some data by the next meeting.

Motion was made by Donna Smith-Pupillo to postpone this item until the December 8, 2020 meeting and to ask the Police Department to put the digital speed limit signs on Loekes and to give us the data so we can make an informed decision. Motion was seconded by Zach Schneider.

On the roll call the commission voted: Donna Smith-Pupillo – yes, Greg Keil – yes, Pete Fischer – yes, Zach Schneider – yes, and Kim Redden – yes. Motion carried. Item 07/20 was postponed until the December 8, 2020 meeting.

08/20 REQUEST THREE-WAY STOP SIGNS AT ESTATES AND BALMORAL
Denied
Ward 9

Request was made to place stop signs at Estates and Balmoral to create a three-way stop intersection. See e-mail from Councilman Siam, September 18, 2020. He stated this is not for speeding per se, but because people lose control of their vehicles around there and have driven on the grass and hit fences. It was stated that they apparently lose control because they are speeding. Greg Keil said he has something to say about that. He said the councilman put that statement in there specifically because we have denied this before because of the reason we don't do stop signs for speeding. He said this is another issue that has come to us before. It was stated that this is the third time Councilman Siam has made this request in the last four years. Pete Fischer said he didn't see very much traffic over there. Greg Keil said he didn't see any traffic when he was over there. Zach Schneider said he sat there about ten minutes himself and didn't see anything. He said he did see the fence that someone ran into and it looks like a temporary or a fixed fence has been put up. He said it is at the house right at that corner. He said he doesn't see a need for a stop sign there. Greg Keil stated that there is already a yield sign there and he saw the digital speed limit sign up there.

Motion was made by Zach Schneider to make a recommendation not to place stop signs at Estates and Balmoral since it does not meet the criteria of the stop sign warrant and we don't

put up stop signs for speeding issues. Motion was seconded by Pete Fischer. On the roll call the commission voted: Donna Smith-Pupillo – yes, Greg Keil – yes, Pete Fischer – yes, Zach Schneider – yes, and Kim Redden – yes. Motion carried. Item 08/20 was dropped from the Agenda.

09/20 REQUEST NO PARKING SIGNS ON THE WEST SIDE OF TROTTERWAY
Denied
Ward 9

Request was made to place no parking signs on the west side of Trotterway from N. Highway 67 to the intersection of N. Waterford. See e-mail from Councilman Siam, October 12, 2020. He said he has been receiving complaints that traffic gets really tight on Trotterway due to people parking on the west side of the street. Parking is already prohibited between N. Highway 67 and Hackney and the residents would like to see that extended south of Hackney for the remainder of the street to the intersection of North Waterford. It was stated that this is also a repeat request. It's been a few years ago and at that time they said this street is wider than a normal street and saw no reason to restrict parking at that time. Greg Keil said he thinks it is wider than a normal street from his observation and when he went down there, he counted four cars parked on the street at the time. He said three were on the east side and one car was on the west side. He said it may be different at different times of the day or different times of the week. Kim Redden said she has traveled down Trotterway and sometimes on the weekend and it does get quite congested at times. Zach Schneider said it is a cut-through street. Kim Redden agreed. She said at times there are people parked too close to the intersection and it does cause a little backlog. You have to be considerate and wave the person through.

Jason Timme said it does cause people to slow down without putting up a stop sign. Kim Redden said normally it doesn't seem like it is that congested. Pete Fischer said he has been driving that for 26 years and has never had a close call. He said he thinks people are more rude now and they don't stop when there is a car there and they try and squeeze by. Greg Keil said here is the other thing – if you would designate one side, the west side, then everybody on the west side has to park across the street. Zach Schneider said then that would leave that lane open. Greg Keil said they are also crossing the street to get to their cars. Kim Redden said that leaves people with that false sense that the street is wide open because it is a wider street, and we have one side that everybody parks on, well we'll just go ahead and speed. Jason Timme said he would have to look at it for sure, but he is almost positive that street is 26 feet, which is typical for most of our streets. He said they are mostly 13 feet lanes. Zach Schneider said it seems to him that it is no wider than any other street. Jason Timme said that if it is wider, it is not much wider. Kim Redden said that if you take away the cars on either side it is going to give them one side to pick up speed. Jason Timme said that was kind of his point. It slows people down having cars parked out there. He said if you are going to say this street should be no parking on one side, then every street that is 26 feet wide should be no parking on one side. Greg Keil said then you would start a precedent. Zach Schneider said he thinks the main issue here is it is a highly traveled street because it is right off of Lindbergh. He asked what the reasoning was behind the no parking between Hackney and Lindbergh. Kim Redden asked if it was because of the pool. Jason Timme said he thinks because it is commercial. Zach Schneider asked if there was an ordinance there that states why. He was told no. Greg Keil asked if the pool were still in use. He was told yes. He said if people frequently park there to use the pool, it would probably get

really congested there and maybe that's why they don't allow parking there. Jason Timme looked it up and said he can't find an ordinance for no parking on Trotterway at all. Zach Schneider asked if we could remove them. Jason Timme said that if there is not an ordinance they shouldn't be there. Kim Redden said what about the residents that live on the west side. They can't have guests park in front of their house. What are they supposed to do? Pete Fischer said it is not pleasant. He lived on St. Anthony for 17 years and everyone parked on his side of the street. He said they rutted out his front yard because they didn't know where the curb was and it was a mess. He said it wasn't pleasant. Greg Keil said he thinks there are curbs on Trotterway if the slurry seal hasn't taken them away. It was suggested that we deny this request. Zach Schneider asked if we could make a motion to also remove the remaining signs that are not part of an ordinance. Jason Timme said honestly we don't even need a motion for that. If there are signs there and there is no ordinance they should not be there. He said he has already started removing a lot of signs. He said case in point, Dunnegant Park on Pohlman Road. He said there were signs all along the park because when they used to have baseball games there people would park on Pohlman Road. There are no parking signs all along there, but there is absolutely no ordinance for them at all. He said that could get real sticky because if the police start writing tickets, they are not looking up ordinances. If they pull up and cars are parked there those cars will get a ticket. Zach Schneider said people are probably paying the ticket. Jason Timme said technically it could get the City in a lot of hot water if somehow a lawyer looked into it and said you are writing tickets for an ordinance that you don't have. Zach Schneider asked Jason if there was some sort of project in place within the Street Department to identify signs that are in the easement that are not supposed to be there. Kim Redden said that is what he is doing right now.

Jason Timme said if you have ever looked at the ordinance, you have to kind of wade through it. It is a case-by-case basis. He said a lot of times it is when they are going to replace them. He will look at the sign and ask why is that sign there, or there is something just odd with it. He said he will go looking for the ordinance and there is no ordinance for that. He said at that point they are not putting the sign back up. If people complain they are told they can go back to the Traffic Commission and they can vote on whether the sign should be there or not.

Motion was made by Greg Keil to make a recommendation not to place no parking signs on Trotterway since the street is wide enough to accommodate the traffic. Zach Schneider also made a motion to investigate the signs that are already there to see if there is an ordinance for them. Motion was seconded by Kim Redden. On the roll call the commission voted: Donna Smith-Pupillo – yes, Greg Keil – yes, Pete Fischer – yes, Zach Schneider – yes, and Kim Redden – yes. Motion carried. Item 09/20 was dropped from the Agenda.

**10/20 REQUEST TO ADD CROSSWALK – NORTHWEST SIDE OF ST. FRANCOIS
AND BROWN
Approved
Ward 6**

Request was made to add a crosswalk on the northwest side of St. Francois and Brown Street. Request was made by Todd Hughes, Director of Public Works, October 14, 2020. Jason Timme said this is a weird one. This is sort of along the same lines as what we just talked about. There are ordinances for crosswalks. We have a lot of crosswalks right now that don't actually fall under the ordinances for crosswalks. This is one of them. There was one there at one point in time. He said we started painting those green fleur-de-lis ones and that one never got painted after the street was resurfaced. He said there are stop for pedestrians signs up there, but the crosswalk

never got repainted. He said he had a request from Historic Florissant to get that crosswalk put back in because a lot of people cross right there. He said if we put the crosswalk back in, then we are going to do it in the green. Everyone agreed that the green ones look good. Jason Timme said it looks good but is a lot harder to do and it is a little more expensive, but yes, they do look good. He said before we did this Todd Hughes, the Director of Public Works, suggested we put it through the Traffic Commission just to vote on it so we can put in. Zach Schneider asked if the ordinance was already there. Jason Timme told him the ordinance is not there. That was the problem. There is no ordinance for that crosswalk. Kim Redden said because they have the parking lot across the street from the City Diner and some of those other businesses, it only makes sense to have a crosswalk there. Donna Smith-Pupillo agreed that it only makes sense to have a crosswalk there. Jason Timme said he thinks the crosswalk at Boone right by City Hall doesn't have an ordinance either. Jason Timme said technically it is at a stop sign. There was some discussion as to the technicality of the sidewalks and it was stated that there are handicap ramps at the crosswalk. Greg Keil said what if we approve this and there is no ordinance. He was told the City Council would have to approve it. Jason Timme said he doesn't know if they are technically ordinances. They just fall under a category in our ordinance book for crosswalks. He said it would fall into that category. We paint a lot of crosswalks every year and there aren't as many in the ordinances as we paint. He said we paint a lot of them.

Motion was made by Kim Redden to make a recommendation to paint a crosswalk on the northwest side of St. Francois and Brown Street. Motion was seconded by Pete Fischer. On the roll call the commission voted: Donna Smith-Pupillo – yes, Greg Keil – yes,

Page
Mayor's Advisory Traffic Commission
11/10/20

Pete Fischer – yes, Zach Schneider – yes, and Kim Redden – yes. Motion carried. Item 10/20 was dropped from the Agenda.

MISCELLANEOUS:

There was a discussion to ask the Mayor to remove and replace Allen Bluiett from the Traffic Commission since he does not come to the meetings.

It was noted that Greg Keil was reappointed to the Traffic Commission as a member from Ward 4.

Next Traffic Commission meeting is scheduled for December 8, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

No other items were brought before the Commission this evening. The meeting was adjourned.

For the Chairman
Mayor's Advisory Traffic Commission

MaryAnn Fitzpatrick
Recording Clerk