

TRAFFIC COMMISSION

City of Findlay
May 17, 2021

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Service-Safety Director Rob Martin, City Engineer Jeremy Kalb, Police Chief Robert Ring, Fire Chief Josh Eberle, Councilman Jim Slough.

STAFF PRESENT: Matt Stoffel, Public Works Superintendent; Tom DeMuth, Traffic Signal Supervisor; Kathy Launder, City Clerk.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request referred back to Traffic Commission from City Council to reconsider the one way direction of the alley at the east side of the intersection of South Main Street and Baldwin Avenue from eastbound to westbound.

Mr. and Mrs. Jess stated that making the alley one way eastbound would cause them extreme hardship when backing out of their driveway, causing them to have to back out of their driveway into a blind alley intersection which is very unsafe due to the number of motorists who use the alley.

Kalb stated that the alley width does not meet the standard for two-way traffic. Due to the intersection being signalized, the alley has to be treated as a street as it relates to minimum width for two-way traffic. The alley does not meet the standard width, and, therefore, needs to be made a one way. It does not matter which direction.

DeMuth stated the cost to upgrade the signal is between \$5000-\$10,000.

Motion to make alley at the east side of the intersection of South Main Street and Baldwin Avenue one way westbound from first alley intersection west to Main Street, by Chief Eberle, second by Chief Ring. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Request of Jeremy Kalb, City Engineer, to reconsider crosswalks at the intersection of Western Avenue and West Sandusky Street.

Kalb stated that with the upgrade to the intersection of Sandusky Street and Western Avenue in conjunction with the railroad, crosswalks were reviewed. Giving a safe route, Kalb recommends that the crosswalk on the north side of the intersection across Western Avenue be removed. The sidewalk going north from the intersection will be removed as part of the project for the safety of pedestrians to prevent a person being trapped in between the rail spur and the through rail. The proposed route of travel for a pedestrian who would want to head north at this intersection would be to cross south across Sandusky Street, west across Western, and north across Sandusky. A proposed crosswalk would be located just north of the railroad tracks to cross back over to the east side of Western Avenue.

Discussion ensued regarding the safety and logistics of installing a mid block crosswalk on the north side of the railroad tracks. It is suggested to not have a crosswalk just north of the railroad tracks and instead have pedestrians utilize the existing crosswalk a little further north at the intersection of Western and Putnam to cross back over to the east side of Western.

Motion to make the intersection of Western Avenue and Sandusky Street a three-way pedestrian crossing, removing the crosswalk on the north side of the intersection across Western Avenue, and eliminating from the project the proposed crosswalk on the north side of the railroad tracks across Western Avenue, by Chief Eberle, second by Councilman Slough. Motion passed 5-0.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting of the City of Findlay Traffic Commission will be held on June 21, 2021, at 2:30 p.m. in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy K. Launder
City Clerk