

TRAFFIC COMMISSION

City of Findlay
June 28, 2022

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

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

STAFF PRESENT: Mayor Christina Muryn, Matt Stoffel, Public Works Superintendent; Jason Rayle, Traffic Signal Supervisor; Kathy Launder, City Clerk.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request of Mayor Christina Muryn to change the speed limit on Center Street from North Main Street to Tiffin Avenue and on Tiffin Avenue from Center Street to North Blanchard Street to 25 miles per hour.

Mayor Muryn stated that there have many concerns, mainly westbound, in the area of Center Street from Tiffin Avenue at or west of the railroad tracks. It's an area heading to Main Street that is 25 miles per hour (MPH). After putting up signage for dangerous curve, guardrails, and chevron signs and collecting traffic count/speed data, we found that motorists are not going excessively fast, except for a few outliers, overall most people are going 40 MPH. But with layout of the curvature and the railroad tracks it would behoove us from a safety standpoint and a traffic flow standpoint to slow it down through there. Mayor Muryn stated her initial request is to take the speed limit from 35 MPH to 25 MPH on Tiffin Avenue, from North Blanchard to Center Street and Center Street from Tiffin Avenue to Main Street

Mayor Muryn stated that many residents in the area have filed complaints. The major concern is the numerous accidents that have occurred that have damaged the homes in the area and feel unsafe to sit in the front part of the house. The City added guardrails and will be planting trees as defense mechanisms, but we need to figure out how to decrease the incidents that are happening. Chief Ring stated that the accidents that have occurred that involved the houses in the area have been speed related followed by failure to control. Director Martin stated that in September, the City will be conducting a traffic safety study in this area. Chief Eberle stated that with the issues we have had it seems like a good idea to reduce to the speed. Chief Ring inquired if we should wait to the results of the safety study. Director Martin stated that we may be two to three years out before any changes would be made related to the traffic safety study. Mayor Muryn stated that this is an easy potential temporary fix. If the results of the traffic safety study come back that we need to reconfigure the whole roadway then we can adjust the speed limit accordingly with the redesign potentially. With the number of accidents, the fatality, the offset intersection, and the railroad tracks it is a dangerous intersection that potentially decreasing the speed limit would reduce the accidents in the area. I would rather take action with the potential of having to reverse it, than take no action when we know the area is a concern and additional accidents occur. Mayor Muryn

stated that the traffic data and vehicle crash data is enough to justify the 25 MPH speed limit. It's just a matter of changing signs. If it doesn't show any signs of success, it can be easily changed back. Director Martin stated that neighbors have been involved and engaged in the discussion and the request to find solutions.

Motion to change the speed limit to 25 MPH on Center Street from North Main Street to Tiffin Avenue and on Tiffin Avenue from Center Street to North Blanchard Street, by Director Martin, second by Councilman Slough. Motion passed 4-0.

2. Request of Mayor Christina Muryn to change the speed limit on South Main Street from Lima Street south to the City corporation limits or from Lima Street to Sixth Street to 25 miles per hour.

Mayor Muryn stated that she has received numerous complaints of speeding on South Main Street. She further stated that she is attempting to calm traffic coming through the City. Councilman Slough stated that he has lived in the area for many years, and he hasn't seen any changes in speed of motorists. Chief Ring stated that a lot of times it only appears that motorists are going faster than they really are. Mayor Muryn asked if we could do a little more enforcement on engine noise side of things. Director Martin stated that he can see it being 25 MPH from Lima Street to Sixth Street, not necessarily to the corporation limits. Mayor Muryn stated that we collect traffic and noise data for the section of South Main Street from Lima Street to Sixth Street and separate data from the section of South Main Street from Sixth Street south to the corporation limits. After this data is collected, then revisit at a future Traffic Commission meeting for a decision.

Motion to table by Chief Eberle, second by Director Martin. Motion passed 4-0.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting of the City of Findlay Traffic Commission will be held on July 18, 2022, at 2:30 p.m. in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy K. Launder
City Clerk