

# TRAFFIC COMMISSION

City of Findlay  
August 15, 2022

---

## MINUTES

### **ATTENDANCE:**

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

**STAFF PRESENT:** Matt Stoffel, Public Works Superintendent; Kathy Launder, City Clerk.

**GUESTS PRESENT:** Tom DeMuth.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Request for review of the Center Street corridor as it relates to traffic flow, speed, barriers for safety as well as sound, and pedestrian crossings.

11/15/2021

Director Martin stated that a group of residents of the Center Street corridor requested a review of the corridor as it relates to traffic flow, speed, barriers for safety as well as sound, and pedestrian crossings.

Kalb stated that he has traffic counts from Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) for Center Street from railroad tracks to Main Street and Tiffin Avenue from Blanchard Street to the split. Currently getting counts for Center Street. Director Martin stated the plan is to get traffic counts and analyze the data. Then discuss what next steps are. Are there things we can do or do we hire an outside source to do a traffic study? Kalb stated that looking at traffic counts from ODOT, on Tiffin Avenue east of Blanchard Street was 18,000 cars per day, on Center Street between the railroad tracks and Main Street was 8,000 cars per day. Kalb is working on ideas, but waiting for traffic counts to come in first. Director Martin stated that the recommendation is to table the request until we are able to get the traffic counts in and analyze the data.

Motion to table request, by Councilman Slough, second by Kalb. Motion passed 5-0.

12/20/2021

Motion to lift item from table, by Councilman Slough, second by Kalb. Motion passed 4-0.

Kalb stated that traffic counts on Center Street from Tiffin Ave. to Blanchard Street westbound was 300 vehicles and eastbound was 800 vehicles. Looking at the safety of those travelling eastbound from S. Main St. and speeding over the railroad tracks to go straight to this area of Center St. Kalb drew up a sketch of what it would look like if a 90° turn was put in to enter onto Center Street at Tiffin Avenue rather than being able to drive straight through. There are no barriers available to slow people down in the area of the railroad tracks. The only thing to really do is to have a safety study done that will cost about \$100,000. Chief Ring suggested we try something more simple with signage that there is a curve ahead especially westbound. Kalb stated that traffic counts at Blanchard and Tiffin Avenue has 18,000 vehicles, and the railroad tracks to Main Street has 8000 vehicles. Director Martin asked if we should look at some signage before we make any significant changes. Kalb stated that in order to get any funding from the State to make changes, a safety study would have to be conducted.

Chief Ring stated that changing Center Street to a 90° turn will slow eastbound traffic, but will do nothing for westbound traffic where most of the issues occur with vehicles running into houses. Rayle asked if raising the pavement on the other side of the railroad tracks to make less of an incline over the tracks would help. Kalb stated that there is a lot of coordination with the railroad company that would need to be done. Kalb further stated that if that comes up in the safety study there is the potential to secure safety funds to pay for it. Director Martin stated that it all comes back around to a safety study. Kalb stated that it is a lot of money, but we collect a lot of data and are then eligible for safety funds.

Signage suggestions: dangerous curve sign with 25 MPH speed designation, chevrons on guardrails or reflectors.

Motion to install dangerous curve signs with railroad and a 25 MPH designation for both directions on either side of the railroad tracks on Center Street and to install chevrons on guardrails on Center Street near railroad tracks, by Chief Ring, second by Kalb. Motion passed 4-0.

Motion to table Center Street corridor discussion, by Chief Ring, second by Kalb. Motion passed 4-0.

3/21/2022

Kalb stated that a safety study is budgeted this year. The study is scheduled to be performed this fall.

7/18/2022

Kalb stated that he went to ODOT Safety Board to request suggestions for this area. The City has already completed the items they have suggested such as signage for the curve and railroad and reducing the speed limit.

8/15/2022

Item remained tabled.

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.

6/28/2022

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.

Motion to lift item from table, by Chief Eberle, second Chief Ring. Motion passed 4-0. After reviewing the speed data taken for South Main Street between Lima Street south to the corporation limits, the speeds recorded are not indicative of changing the speed limits.

Motion to deny request to change the speed limit on South Main Street from Lima Street south to the City corporation limits nor from Lima Street to Sixth Street to 25 miles per hour, by Chief Ring, second by Chief Eberle. Motion passed 4-0.

3. Request of Diane Boguski, 1920 Palmer Drive, Findlay, Ohio, to replace the traffic signal at the intersection of Western Avenue and Lake Cascades Parkway.

7/18/2022

Edith Wannemacher stated that she travels Lake Cascades Parkway to Western Avenue frequently. She has witness numerous near misses at this intersection due to visibility issues while looking south as well as the speed of motorists travelling Western Avenue. Kalb stated that the Lake Cascades sign is potentially in the line of sight and the grassy hill is on the verge of being in the line of sight. Currently the traffic counts do not warrant a traffic signal at this intersection. Kalb stated he can have a traffic study performed by City staff of this area. After the study is complete, a decision can be made regarding how to address the issues at this intersection.

Motion to deny request to replace the traffic signal at the intersection of Western Avenue and Lake Cascades Parkway, by Kalb, second by Ring. Motion passed 4-0.

Motion to have City of Findlay Engineering Department perform a traffic study of the intersection of Western Avenue and Lake Cascades Parkway and bring results back to Traffic Commission to review, by Kalb, second by Martin. Motion passed 4-0.

8/15/2022

Item remained tabled

## **NEW BUSINESS**

No New Business

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting of the City of Findlay Traffic Commission will be held on September 19, 2022, at 2:30 p.m. in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy K. Launder  
City Clerk

**WORK ORDERS**

Minutes approved by Council 10/18/2022

**ADMINISTRATION ACTION**