

TRAFFIC COMMISSION

City of Findlay

April 15, 2024

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Service-Safety Director Rob Martin, City Engineer Jeremy Kalb, Police Chief James Mathias, Fire Chief Josh Eberle, Councilman Brian Bauman.

STAFF PRESENT: A.J. Copus, Public Works Supervisor; Kathy Launder, City Clerk.

GUESTS PRESENT: Dan Sheaffer and Chris Keller, Findlay-Hancock County Economic Development; Dustin Rice, by phone.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request of Jonathan Wilkins, 2821 N. Main Street, for a No Truck sign to be added to the existing No Outlet sign on Bell Avenue and North Main Street.

Kalb stated that if there are multiple semis turning onto Bell Avenue, most likely GPS is leading them there. Kalb stated we have the capability to submit a change to routes on Google and Mapquest. Chief Eberle stated that Findlay Pallet and B&H Pallet Liquidators should communicate with their trucking companies on the best route to their location.

Motion to communicate with Findlay Pallet and B&H Pallet Liquidators to provide the best route to their location to their trucking companies, submit a change of route to Google Maps and Mapquest so that semis are not directed to turn onto to Bell Avenue to deliver to Findlay Pallet and B&H Liquidators, and deny request for a No Outlet sign by Director Martin, second by Kalb. Motion passed 4-0. (Councilman Bauman was not in attendance for this vote.)

2. Request of Dustin Rice, 1310 Amelia Avenue, for solutions to persistent speeding on Amelia Street.

Rice stated that motorists going high rates of speed on Amelia Avenue south of Blanchard Avenue has been ongoing since 2017 when he moved there. When the speed trailers are brought out, motorists slow down and when they are removed, motorists speed back up. Rice understands that the City does not allow speed bumps in the roadway. In reference to the suggestion of a three-way stop at Amelia Avenue and Fourth Street, Director Martin explained that the science behind placing stop signs is that you put stop signs in for maneuverability, not to slow traffic. Human nature is to have a tendency to speed up between stop signs or miss them completely, and it gives the pedestrian a sense of false security. Kalb stated other options are narrowing concepts to slow traffic, but concerned about how wide the street currently is and do not want to narrow too much and cause head on collisions. Director Martin stated that the City has been working through all the scenarios to try to come up with a solution. Kalb stated that traffic coming off of Blanchard Avenue have an easy turn onto Amelia and do not have to slow down as much and can get back up to speed much quicker. He suggested that a slight reconfiguration of the Blanchard Avenue/Amelia Avenue intersection to tighten up the radius to make traffic turn at a sharper degree than what is currently there may help to slow traffic coming off of Blanchard Avenue. Chief Mathias suggested to periodically post the speed trailers. Rice stated that the Police Department is welcome to park in his driveway to monitor traffic. Copus stated they can attach the small radar collection sign to a signpost to collect data rather than use the large trailers. The radar will run one week without displaying speed, but will collect data, and then

run one week displaying the speed while continuing to collect data. Kalb stated that this data will help support a decision to place stop signs.

Motion to post radar collection unit to collect speed data for two weeks, evaluate curb bump out options on Amelia and Blanchard, and table request until data is evaluated, by Director Martin, second by Councilman Bauman. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Lincoln Street Parking Reconfiguration – W. Lincoln Street between S. Cory St. and S. West St.

Director Martin stated that there have been different options of the conceptual design of parking out front at Lincoln School. In discussions with the developer, Jim Spencer, it was brought up that the model of reverse angle parking seems to fit this area and it is not new to Findlay. Keller stated that Mr. Spencer is okay with the reverse angle parking. Sheaffer stated that the parking will be used mainly for commercial business use from 8am-5pm. Keller stated a further request was to remove the 2 hour parking restriction due to the type of business activity that is slated for that building. Kalb stated that the south curb line may be moved a couple feet to the south and the north curb line moved to the north during the street resurfacing. This will allow enough space for the reverse angle parking and enough space for lanes of travel. Also looking to keep the curb bump outs at the intersection to help with drainage and keep crossing short. Director Martin stated for clarification that the parking on the south side of the street will remain parallel parking. Parking on the property will be for the residential portion of the building. If the 2 hour parking restriction is removed, there will be the potential of people using it for all day parking that are not doing business at the Lincoln School building. Kalb stated that we may gain around 20 parking spaces to that area with the reverse angle parking. Sheaffer asked if an eParking solution that is monitored by a third party is something that would be considered for this area. Those who have a card to access the building would swipe their card and be permitted to park for longer than the 2 hour restriction and those that are not using the building would be restricted to 2 hour parking. Director Martin stated that that goes back to providing reserved spaces in public parking area for private business. Keller stated that the developer would prefer to have the 2 hour restriction removed and deal with the potential of people taking advantage of the parking. Kalb suggested to wait to change the parking restriction to see how the operation of the building goes.

Motion to change parking configuration on the north side of W. Lincoln St. from S. Cory St. to S. West St. to reverse angle parking heading westbound; keep parallel parking on the south side of W. Lincoln St. from S. Cory St. to S. West St.; and work with Engineering Department on the roadway design, by Kalb, second by Councilman Bauman. 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 May 20, 2024 at 2:30 p.m. in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy K. Launder
City Clerk