TRAFFIC COMMISSION



Monday, August 17, 2015 ◆ 2:30 p.m. Municipal Building, Third Floor Conference Room

Agenda

OLD BUSINESS

1. Request of Dave Honse, Street Department Supervisor, to implement a snow emergency policy effective beginning Winter 2015/2016 on Beech Street from East Lima Street to Hancock Street.

3/16/2015

Honse stated that when cars are parked on the street, it is very difficult to get a small plow truck down the street to plow snow. A fire truck would not be able to get through. This is the narrowest street. There are no snow emergency streets currently in Findlay. Director Schmelzer asked Honse to research how other communities handle snow emergency policies as it relates to parking on the street. Do they handle it by legislation or is it policy.

Motion to table request by Director Schmelzer, second by Chief Horne. Motion passed 3-0.

2. Request of The University of Findlay, 1000 North Main Street, for a pedestrian activated light across North Main Street from new admissions office to the campus.

6/15/2015

Jones stated that the current signal crossings are too far away from The University of Findlay (UF) Admissions Office. The midblock crossing policy was reviewed. UF prefers to place a signal at the intersection of North Main Street and Allen Avenue. UF will pursue traffic study for signal. Jones stated that there are 30-40 people per day historically crossing over to the Admissions Office. There are more activities at the UF Armstrong Sports Complex at the corner of Trenton and Blanchard. Many more people are crossing Main Street from the main campus. Cobb stated that UF is acquiring more and more properties on the east side of Main Street as well. Director Schmelzer stated that a conventional signal at an existing intersection is preferable over a midblock crossing.

Motion to table request by Councilman Monday, second by Director Schmelzer. Motion passed 4-0.

3. Request of Marathon Petroleum Company, LP, to permanently remove 6 parking spaces along South Main Street, directly south of Hardin Street along the east side of the street.

07/20/2015

Don Malarky stated that a green space is being constructed as part of Marathon Petroleum Company's (MPC) expansion project. This green space will be at the southeast corner of Main Street and Hardin Street. This area is meant for a gathering space. To enhance the security, safety, and privacy of this area, the parking spaces along this area are requested to be permanently removed. MPC understands that parking in downtown is a hot issue. MPC is addressing the issue of its employees parking in on street parking spaces by constructing two parking garages that will house all employees. Therefore, employees of MPC will no longer be parking on the street once the second parking garage is completed. The net result is favorable.

Councilman Monday stated that he has received calls from merchants on the west side of South Main Street in the 600 block requesting to not have parking taken away. Councilman Monday stated that he would oppose the request to permanently eliminate parking spaces on Main Street due to this opposition.

Director Schmelzer stated that he feels we are stuck in the middle. He likes the plan but does have some pressure from downtown merchants regarding insufficient downtown parking. Director Schmelzer requested that we examine this request when MPC's second parking garage is complete and parking availability is realized. Malarky stated that the timing of construction is not good to wait. MPC is essentially trading 6 spaces for 1000 spaces with the new garage. MPC patrols the area streets for employees parking on the street. If found, the employee is given two warnings, and then serious action is taken. Latest date that MPC can wait for a decision to move forward is January 1, 2016. Director Schmelzer stated that it is not an unreasonable request. It is a question of timing.

Motion to table request, by Director Schmelzer, second by Chief Horne. Motion passed 5-0.

4. Request of Joanne Streacker, 8293 Brookfield Drive, for a 3-way stop at the intersection of Lakeview Parkway and Brookview Trail.

07/20/2015

Ms. Streacker states that it is difficult to see when pulling out off of Brookview Trail on to Lakeview Parkway. She has seen numerous near misses. Director Schmelzer stated that there have been no vehicle or pedestrian accidents and one bicycle accident per review of traffic reports at this intersection. There are no sight distance issues at this intersection at 25 MPH speed per Uniform Traffic Code. A stop sign is not warranted per the specifications. Director Schmelzer stated that since this item was added to the agenda during the meeting, additional review is needed.

Motion to table request for further review, Director Schmelzer, second by Chief Eberle. Motion passed 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Request of August Steinbrook, 132 19th Street, to eliminate parking on one side of the street.
- 2. Request of Bob Kuhlman, 500 Fox Run Road, for additional 25 MPH signs on Saratoga off of Bright Road.