

TRAFFIC COMMISSION

City of Findlay
August 15, 2016

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Service-Safety Director Paul Schmelzer, Police Chief Greg Horne, Fire Chief Josh Eberle, City Engineer Brian Thomas, Councilman Ron Monday.

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

GUEST PRESENT: Holly Frische, Councilperson.

OLD BUSINESS

1. 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.

5/16/2016

Schmelzer gave an update regarding this request. He stated that Traffic Signals Supervisor Tom DeMuth placed traffic cameras resulting in five days of data being recorded. The pedestrian counts from this recording have been taken. We still need to collect the vehicle counts. After all the pedestrian and vehicle counts have been taken and this data reviewed by the Engineering Department, the data and a recommendation for the next step will be forwarded to The University of Findlay and their consultant. This should be completed in the next couple weeks. Item remains tabled.

07/18/2016

Thomas stated that the traffic cameras were placed on George Street and were able to pick up data on North Main Street from George Street to Foulke Avenue. Thomas sent a letter to The University of Findlay and copied their consultant, DGL with the results. If you look at the entire stretch that includes five intersections, and if you assume the pedestrians cross elsewhere 50 percent of the time, it does not meet the criteria. Thomas suggested to bring the item off the table at the next Traffic Commission for discussion and a decision. This will give The University of Findlay enough time to review the results and decide if they want to proceed. Item remains tabled.

8/15/2016

Motion to lift item from table, by Director Schmelzer, second by Councilman Monday. Motion passed 5-0.

Schmelzer stated that no additional information has been received.

Motion to deny request for a pedestrian activated light across North Main Street from the University of Findlay Admissions Office, by Director Schmelzer, second by Thomas. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Request for additional signals at Sandusky Street and Main Street.

5/16/2016

Schmelzer stated that a traffic camera was placed facing one direction at this intersection for peak traffic. It will then be placed facing the other direction at the intersection. Once the data collected from the video is reviewed, it will be brought back to Traffic Commission for consideration. Item remains tabled.

08/15/2016

DeMuth stated that he needs to convert the video files for review. Item remains tabled.

3. Request of Tom Wohlgamuth to enact an ordinance restricting golf carts to only be able to travel on 25 mile per hour roads or less.

05/16/2016

Currently licensed golf carts can be on 35 MPH roads as long as it is not for a long period of time in the City of Findlay. Rasmussen stated that we should look at the power requirement of golf carts to see if they can go 35 MPH. The current ordinance is very ambiguous. It needs to be updated. A new Ohio traffic law allowing golf carts to travel on roads with a speed limit of 35 MPH or less will go into effect January 1, 2017. It is requested that the City enact a law only allowing golf carts on roads that are 25 MPH or less. Rasmussen will look into the new law and its requirements. Will continue discussion at next month's meeting.

08/15/2016

Item remains tabled.

4. Request of Tom DeMuth, Traffic Signal Department, to convert the 200 block of Washington Street from one-way to two-way.

7/18/2016

Thomas stated that the 200 block of Washington Street is just as wide as the remainder of the street. Chief Horne stated that visibility is not good for southbound Cory Street traffic. Stoffel stated that he didn't believe that visibility is bad. Monday stated that we should notify the property owners in the 200 block of Washington Street to get their feedback about making the change to two-way traffic. Motion to table request; notify property owners; and have further discussion after receiving input from property owners, by Councilman Monday, second by Chief Eberle. Motion passed 4-0.

08/15/2016

Motion to lift item from table, by Director Schmelzer, second by Chief Eberle. Motion passed 5-0.

Director Schmelzer reported that we have received numerous responses from residents in the area that are not in favor of this change. Commend Councilman Monday for suggesting reaching out to residents.

Motion to deny request to convert the 200 block of Washington Street from one-way to two-way, by Director Schmelzer, second by Chief Eberle. Motion passed 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request of Bobbie Hile to look at parking on Clifton Avenue at Main Street causing congestion.

Director Schmelzer stated that there are hardly any vehicles parked on Clifton Avenue at the corner of Main Street that would cause congestion. Chief Eberle suggested installing a "No Parking Here To Alley" sign on one side of the street to help alleviate any congestion. Director Schmelzer stated that parents picking up children at end of the school day would still park there. Motion to deny request for restricted parking on Clifton Avenue at Main Street based on current information, by Director Schmelzer, second by Chief Eberle. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Request of residents of Bluestone Drive for "No Parking" signs on Bluestone Drive.

This portion of Bluestone Drive is 26' face to face. Twenty-two residents signed a letter in support of limiting parking. This is less than half of the residents that live on this street. One resident emailed stating that they are not in favor of limiting parking. There is No Parking on one side of the street on Bluestone Drive from Manor Hill to Milestone. Director Schmelzer stated that he will follow up stating that we need more residents in support of the change before making a decision to restrict parking.

Motion to table request, by Director Schmelzer, second by Chief Horne. Motion 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 September 19, 2016, at 2:30 p.m. in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy K. Launder
City Clerk