

TRAFFIC COMMISSION

City of Findlay
January 23, 2017

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

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

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

OLD BUSINESS

1. 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.

9/19/2016

Item remains tabled.

01/23/2017

Item remains tabled.

2. Request of Fire Chief Josh Eberle to review sight distance at intersection of Beech Street at East Sandusky Street.

10/17/2016

Chief Eberle stated that he had a near miss accident pulling off of Beech Street onto East Sandusky Street. He suggests that we eliminate one parking space on the northeast corner of this intersection to add sight distance to the intersection. A suggestion is to restrict parking during peak hours. Director Schmelzer stated that when Engineering takes a look at the video for this area for the Main and Sandusky Street intersection review, to take notes on traffic volume in the area, and bring back to Traffic Commission for further discussion.

01/23/2017

Thomas stated that he looked at one 12-hour period of time at this intersection. He looked at how often vehicles were parked in the first parking spaces on the north side of East Sandusky Street to the east and west of Beech Street; how many near miss accidents from vehicles turning left and right off of Beech Street onto East Sandusky Street; and number of vehicles passing through the area. Thomas stated that the parking spaces were occupied approximately 85% of the time; there were three to four near miss accidents throughout the 12 hour period from vehicles turning left. Director Schmelzer requested that Thomas review two more days to obtain additional data prior to Traffic Commission making a decision.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request of resident to consider installing stop signs at the north/south alley just east of South Main Street between First Street and Hancock Street.

Thomas stated that visibility is blocked at the alley intersection. Not a bad idea to put a stop sign at the intersection, but not sure where it would be able to be installed due to structures

and bushes at the intersection. Director Schmelzer stated that the City does not place stop signs to control speed.

Motion to deny request by Director Schmelzer, second by Councilman Monday. Motion passed 5-0.

2. Request of Tom DeMuth to revisit Cooper Tire & Rubber Company request for pedestrian crossing signs in crosswalks on Lima Avenue.

DeMuth stated that by placing the pedestrian crossing signs at a signalized crossing, the City created a contradiction. The signs state that the pedestrian has the right of way while in the crosswalk, which contradicts the traffic signal. It is suggested to place a different decal on the signs. Director Schmelzer stated he thought that the sign was going to be chevron striped rather than the "yield to pedestrian in crosswalk" sign that was installed.

Motion to have Matt Stoffel research options for decals to place on signs; have Director Schmelzer reach out to Cooper Tire & Rubber Company that different decals on pedestrian signs are needed so there is no contradiction with traffic signal and crosswalk; and also request that Cooper Tire & Rubber Company reach out to its employees to remind them about safety in a crosswalk, by Director Schmelzer, second by Chief Eberle. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Request of Matt Stoffel, City of Findlay Public Works Superintendent, to remove the 2 hour parking restriction on Second Street in front of 404 Second Street, the former site of Sinks Flowers.

Stoffel stated that Sinks Flowers is no longer at 404 Second Street. The building was destroyed by fire and demolished. The site is vacant at this time. Unless a business is planning to rebuild at this site, there is no need to have the 2-hour parking restriction. Motion to remove the 2-hour parking restriction in front of 404 Second Street, by Acting Chief Young, second by Director Schmelzer. Motion passed 5-0.

4. Request of Krista Miller, Principal of Jacobs School, to make Jacobs Avenue at North Blanchard Street right turn only.

It will be tough getting compliance. This will create double the traffic on residential streets. Councilman Monday requested that Acting Chief Young pull accident reports for this intersection. Acting Chief Young will pull crash data and obtain summary of what the police officer who monitors Jacobs School discussed with Principal Miller.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting of the City of Findlay Traffic Commission will be held on February 21, 2017, at 2:30 p.m. in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy K. Launder
City Clerk