

# TRAFFIC COMMISSION

City of Findlay  
November 20, 2017

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## MINUTES

### **ATTENDANCE:**

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

STAFF PRESENT: Matt Stoffel, Public Works Superintendent; Tom DeMuth, Traffic Signal Supervisor, Don Rasmussen, Law Director; Kathy Launder, City Clerk.

GUESTS PRESENT: Sharon Fontaine, Greg Williams, George Adams, Anthony Bloomfield, and Grant Russel.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

1. Request of Councilman Ron Monday to review the left turn signalization from Fostoria Avenue onto Tiffin Avenue.

05/15/2017

Councilman Monday stated that a constituent had expressed to him that the directional signage on Fostoria Avenue at Tiffin Avenue is confusing. Discussion ensued regarding the left turn signal activation of the traffic signal. Schmelzer inquired why the hashes on pavement along the island along the eastbound lane are in place? Can it be changed to a lane of traffic to open up the intersection to allow for a dedicated left turn lane?

Motion to table to research history of hashes on pavement, by Director Schmelzer, second by Chief Eberle. Motion passed 5-0.

10/16/2017

Director Thomas stated that he is waiting to hear back from the Ohio Department of Transportation. No action taken. Item remains tabled.

11/20/2017

Motion to lift item from table, by Councilman Monday, second by Director Schmelzer. Motion passed 4-0. Motion that no further action be taken, by Councilman Monday, second by Director Schmelzer. Motion passed 4-0.

2. Request of Councilman Grant Russel to change the direction of the angle parking on South West Street on the east side to reverse angle parking.

10/16/2017

Councilman Russel stated that changing the direction of the angle parking on South West Street to reverse angle parking is a move toward safety and consistency Downtown. Director Thomas stated that the road is scheduled to be paved prior to next Traffic Commission meeting, but would like to see how many parking spots we would have with the reverse angle parking. We can stripe the area with the existing parking structure with temporary pavement marking, until we get further information. Chief Eberle thinks that we should explore.

Motion to table request until further information can be gathered, by Director Thomas, second by Chief Dunbar. Motion passed 4-0.

11/20/2017

Motion to lift item from table, by Director Schmelzer, second by Chief Eberle. Motion passed 4-0.

Director Thomas distributed an exhibit showing the change of parking spaces to reverse angle parking spaces on the east side of South West Street between West Main Cross Street and West Crawford Street. There were previously 23 parking spaces. Changing the direction of the parking spaces to reverse angle parking yields 26 parking spaces. It is recommended to remove three parking spaces directly south of West Main Cross Street for safety reasons. This will also allow sufficient space to add a left turn lane.

Motion to change the parking pattern on the east side of South West Street between West Main Cross Street and West Crawford Street to reverse angle parking as presented and add a dedicated left turn lane with a straight/right turn lane for northbound traffic, by Director Schmelzer, second by Chief Eberle.

Motion passed 4-0.

3. Request of Don Rasmussen to change parking restriction on Heatherwood Drive from County Road 236 west to driveway of Findlay Evangelical Free Church (2515 Heatherwood Drive) to No Parking Any Time or No Parking on Sundays.

10/16/2017

Rasmussen stated that each Sunday vehicles park on Heatherwood Drive in front of the church and it backs up traffic on Heatherwood Drive at County Road 246. Councilman Monday suggests that we post this area "No Parking Any Time." It was suggested to reach out to the pastor of the church to have him/her make an announcement to not park on the street during church services. If parking on the street continues, then bring back to Traffic Commission for action.

Motion to table until the church has made an announcement to its congregation about not parking on Heatherwood Drive during church services, by Councilman Monday, second by Director Thomas. Motion 4-0.

11/20/2017

Motion to lift item from table, by Councilman Monday, second by Director Thomas. Motion passed 4-0.

Motion that no further involvement is needed, by Councilman Monday, second by Director Schmelzer.

Motion passed 4-0.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

1. Request of Marathon Petroleum Company to permanently remove nine parking spaces on the east side of South Main Street directly north of East Lincoln Street.

Director Schmelzer clarified that this request is to permanently remove three parking spaces that are directly in front of the canopy of the Hancock Hotel. The other six parking spaces were previously removed by City Planning Commission requirements. The three parking spaces could still be used as public parking spaces.

Motion to vacate three parking spaces on the east side of South Main Street between East Lincoln Street and East Hardin Street directly in front of the canopy of the Hancock Hotel for the operation of valet service and all other site plan improvements be completed in accordance with all prior City Planning Commission approvals, by Director Schmelzer, second by Chief Eberle.

Motion passed 4-0.

2. Request of Tom DeMuth, City of Findlay Traffic Signals, to review the signals at the intersection of Western Avenue and Lake Cascades Parkway to determine if they are still needed due to increasing maintenance and upgrade costs.

DeMuth stated that the traffic signals at the intersection of Western Avenue and Lake Cascades Parkway are continually having failures due to its age. An upgrade would cost \$40,000. Is this traffic signal necessary?

Motion to take traffic counts for the intersection of Western Avenue and Lake Cascades Parkway to determine if traffic signal is still needed, by Director Schmelzer, second by Chief Eberle. Motion passed 4-0.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting of the City of Findlay Traffic Commission will be held on December 18, 2017, at 2:30 p.m. in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy K. Launder  
City Clerk