

MINUTES

REGULAR TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MEETING

July 19, 2023

7:00 a.m.

VIA ZOOM

PRESIDING: Frank Pyles, Chairman

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Russ Brown, Michael Holloran, Larry Fairclo and Sandy Haechrel

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Mike Kilkenny and one position vacant

STAFF PRESENT: Dale McCabe – City Engineer, David Mills – Transportation Manager, Dan Richardson – City Councilor and Cindy Keever - Administrative Secretary

GUESTS PRESENT: Bob Kenyon and Judy Merrill

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Pyles at 7:02 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL OF COMMISSION MEMBERS

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion to approve the July agenda was made by Holloran and seconded by Brown. The motion carried unanimously.

5. PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

None

6. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

- A. Bob Kenyon spoke to the Commission regarding his safety concern when walking in the downtown area on both 2nd and 3rd Streets. He's concerned for his safety when the traffic lights are on the blinking yellow mode and he is trying to cross the street.

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Bob said he has talked to many people who walk and ride bikes in the downtown area and all would like the hours that the lights are set in the blinking mode to be shortened.

A discussion was held regarding why the lights are set to blinking and ideas on the best times to start and end the blinking lights each day.

Action - Holloran made a motion to send to the Public Works Director a recommendation asking that the blinking lights be shut off at 6:00 a.m. and turned back on at 10:00 p.m. each day of the week, including Sundays. This recommendation would be all year long with no change during the seasons. Pyles seconded the motion. Brown, Haechrel and Fairclo voting yes on the motion. Kilkenny absent and one position vacant.

- B. Judy Merrill passed around pictures of a stop sign that is obscured by trees at the intersection of 9th Street and Trevitt Street. She has seen and heard about several near misses because people can't see the stop sign. It was believed that Codes Enforcement has already sent letters to the property owners to trim their trees. Merrill asked if Lesich could contact her confirming a letter has been sent out.
- C. Judy Merrill said while waiting at the intersection of 6th Street and 3rd Place, it is very difficult to see traffic traveling in both directions. Safely pulling out onto the travel lanes when heading west is difficult. The stop sign is adjacent to an island and is located at an awkward angle to easily see west bound traffic. It was agreed that this intersection is difficult to see in both directions. No changes proposed at this time.
- D. Judy Merrill asked the TSC members and staff to look at the intersection of 11th Street and Pentland Street. Visibility is a problem. Codes Enforcement will be asked to assess the intersection for visibility issues.
- E. Judy Merrill told the commissioners the stop sign on Lincoln Street, between 2nd Street and 3rd Street is also difficult to navigate. A discussion was held. With the new annex facility being built to the east of that intersection foot traffic is likely to increase. It was suggested by City Engineer McCabe that a Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon ((RRFP) might be helpful at that location. The RRFP would be helpful in alerting drivers of pedestrian traffic. McCabe will add this location to his RRFP location list.

7. STAFF REPORTS

A. TRANSPORTATION DIVISION MANAGER REPORT

Mills left the meeting early so Keever read the Transportation Manager's notes to the commission.

- 1. A full width grind and pave back of Chenowith Street between W 6th Street and Cherry Heights will happen during the week of July 24th. An emergency sewer line fix occurred at this location and the road was in too bad of shape to just pave the work area. The City will

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recycle all of the old asphalt in place and use it as the base for the road. All five of the ADA ramps will be upgraded next spring as part of the City's annual ADA contract for paving projects.

2. August 7th through the 10th the Transportation Division will be placing a fog seal treatment over the roads that were chip sealed last month.

3. The annual City-wide long line striping project will be the week of August 14th.

B. CITY POLICE REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

No representative to give report.

C. CITY CODES ENFORCEMENT OFFICER REPORT

No representative to give report.

D. CITY ENGINEER REPORT

1. Starting the first part of July locates had been called in for the work to begin for the Safe Routes to School Project on 10th Street between Snipes Street and Chenowith Loop Road.

2. The 6th Street Project is currently on schedule to start in the spring of 2024. The area under construction will be on W 6th Street between Snipes Street and Hostetler Street.

3. The storm line project for the Navigation Center on W 7th Street is nearing completion.

4. In August, storm line work will begin in the Port area between Klindt Drive and River Road.

5. The project on River Road continues with blasting work to take place July 19th through July 21st. The blasting is necessary for lift station construction.

6. Safety fencing has been installed and the removal of the hazardous materials in the old Tony's Building, located at the corner of 2nd Street and Federal Street, will begin soon. Demolition of the building to follow.

7. As of July 1st the City began taking new applications for the Sidewalk Rehab Cost-Share Program. The program has been broken into three categories and is a bit different than in the previous years.

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8. CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Holloran and seconded by Brown to approve the June minutes. The motion carried unanimously.

9. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Election of officers has been postponed until the August meeting.

B. City Staff has not yet made contact with property owners along 10th Street near Vey Way regarding installation of a crosswalk and the loss of parking to the residents living in the area. Efforts to make contact will continue.

C. Codes Enforcement was not present at the July meeting so status of contacting property owner regarding visibility issues at the NW corner of 10th Street and Walnut Street is unknown. This item will be put back on the August agenda.

D. City staff has looked at the intersections of 9th Street and Mt. Hood Street and 10th Street and Mt. Hood Street to see which would be easier for trucks turning and heading south on Mt. Hood Street. Both have their challenges. More yellow paint will be painted on the curbs on Mt. Hood Street on both the east and west sides of 10th Street. Observations will be made during the cherry harvest to see how effective the changes are.

10. ROUNDS TO COLLECT AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Commissioners Fairclo and Haechrel both said the long line striping of Dry Hollow Road needs to be done asap. The chip sealing project has covered up the lines and they have observed near misses and frustration on Dry Hollow Road and at the intersection of 12th Street and Dry Hollow Road.

Brown would like to suggest that the Traffic Safety Commission group come up with some kind of letter to send to the City Council encouraging Council to hire a Police Safety Officer right away. The excessive speeds that are currently being driven in the downtown area are a perfect example of why a Safety Officer is needed.

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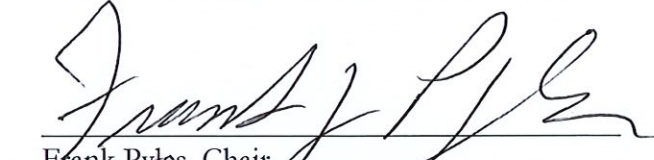
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11. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, meeting adjourned @ 8:08 a.m.

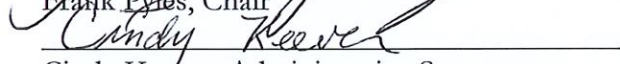
Submitted by/
Cindy Keever, Administrative Secretary
Public Works Department

SIGNED:



Frank Pyles, Chair

ATTEST:



Cindy Keever, Administrative Secretary
Public Works Department