

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2005, 7:00 PM
NEWBERG PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
401 E. Third Street, Newberg, OR

Members

Present: Dick Meyer Tamera Wimmer Ron Sult
 Joyce Vergets Doris Brandt John Featherston

Members

Absent: Chair Michael Simpson Vice Chair Becky Simpson

Staff

Present: Tim Weaver, Police Sergeant
 Bob Knorr, Engineering
 Julie Carrasco,
 Kathleen Bochart, Recording Secretary

Others

Present: Jim Morrison, Robert Soppe, Laura Hyland, Lois Thompson, Morton Thompson

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, Dick Meyer directed the meeting.

DICK MEYER CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:10PM

Minutes from the November 14, 2005 meeting were approved with amended corrections.

MOTION: Brandt/Wimmer to approve minutes from the November 14, 2005 meeting. (Unanimous)
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COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

OLD BUSINESS

A) Staff report on Sheridan Street No Parking Request 700/800 block.

Bob Knorr, Engineering, presented staff report. Staff recommends that this be postponed until February 13, 2006 as there are members of the committee who are absent and who wish to hear the report. Mr. Knorr reminded the commission that the decision is up to them and that they can do whatever they feel is needed. The report included in the packet covers Sheridan street history, AASHTO Design Criteria, the City's Development Code, along with City Fire Department Comments.

Jim Morrison stated addresses and the amount of parking in front of each of the houses. There are a total of 15 parking spaces for 4 single family houses. Mr. Morrison stated that there are a

couple of questions that he believes still need to be answered. One is why does all other streets except the 700 and 800 block of Sheridan Street has no parking on one side and the other has to do with current street standards and new roads. The city needs to have consistency.

Robert Soppe stated that he thought staff's report was reasonable in what was covered. Mr. Soppe commented on how many parking spots are on each side of the road. The north side has 13 spots and the south side has 10. There are also a lot of other houses that need to use the parking on Sheridan Street other than those houses that are on Sheridan Street.

Laura Hyland stated that she would like to speak on the parking that has disappeared. Some of the parking spots that are used on Sheridan Street are used by those who live on either College or Hancock. Ms. Hyland has recently talked with a bus driver who drops off children in the area and also spoke with the fire department. A school bus and a Fire Truck is close to the same size and there is no problem with the bus so the Fire Department should not have problems going down that road. There has been possibly 6 times when the fire department has needed to be in the area and there were no complaints.

Lois Thompson stated that the thought of loosing anymore parking is unthinkable. Ms. Thompson stated that Ms. Hyland has to walk a block with two children and groceries. Ms. Thompson stated that she is unable to walk that much and the thought of loosing parking and having to walk that far is unbearable. The commission needs to remember that there is no parking on College Street and on Hancock Street.

Morton Thompson stated that he realizes that these roads were built a long time ago and were made for smaller cars and that causes a problem with parking. Mr. Thompson stated that he is sure that there are times when it is crowded for the fire trucks, but yet the school busses go through there and make it just fine. Mr. Thompson stated that the only way to have parking on College Street would be to fill in the planter strips and park there.

John Featherston asked what the city policy was for handicap parking on public streets.

Tim Weaver, Police Sergeant stated that there has been some allowed throughout the city in the last few years. It is something that is possible to do.

MOTION: Brandt/Wimmer to leave parking as is on Sheridan Street. (Unanimous)

B) Staff report on speed & noise concerns at Hwy. 240, Illinois and Grant Street.

Bob Knorr, Engineering stated that this was an informal report. Mr. Knorr stated that he is not making a recommendation. Mr. Knorr stated that ODOT recently placed oversized speed signs along Hwy 240 at the entrance to the city. Staff has met with PGE to review the placement of two street lights near Hwy 240 and Grant Street. The city is also pursuing the placement of an "un-muffled" engine braking sign along this same section.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

STAFF REPORTS

Bob Knorr, Engineering, stated that he handed out a letter that was from a citizen. She would like to see either a traffic light or a 4 way stop at Second and Fernwood.

Doris Brandt asked when the light on Hayes Street would be on.

Bob Knorr stated that it was discussed at the engineering staff meeting and it is getting closer. There is no exact date on it.

Doris Brandt asked why the light was placed on Hayes and Springbrook.

Bob Knorr stated that there had been talk with Fred Meyer about closing the west entrance and forcing people to go south to Hayes Street and onto Springbrook to make it safer. There was a traffic study done by a professional traffic engineer and he felt that it was best to put a light there for future needs.

Bob Knorr also stated that there has been a lot of work done with ODOT about the intersection of Springbrook and Hwy 219. The conflict is that the intersection is not big enough for Semi-trucks to turn and they clog up the intersection and block traffic.

Dick Meyer asked if Hayes street is going to go through to the intersection of Deborah and Hayes over by Texaco.

Bob Knorr stated that the Willcuts are developing a building on the corner of Deborah and Hayes and there has been talk of them extending the road. Mr. Knorr stated that he did not know the timeline on the road but it is still in progress.

Police Sergeant Tim Weaver presented staff report. December was a good month. There was just under 900 calls for service. 64 criminal arrests, one drug evaluation, about 150 traffic citations and about 150 warrants. The police are re-filing for the pedestrian safety overtime grant. The police department hired 2 officers in December. Mike Fleming and Adam Dean. There were under 900 calls for service. 64 criminal arrests. One drug evaluation, approximately 250 traffic citations and approximately 150 warrants. The radar trailers have been out and in sight. The police have had to deal with some vandalized trailers. The officers have been getting some extra training on DUII skills.

Mr. Weaver passed out the ODOT's quarterly newsletter and discussed the new pedestrian crossing law.

Bob Knorr, Engineering stated that he was asked by the City Planner to bring up the issue of planter strips. Under two recently passed ordinances, the City of Newberg has come up with rules to keep people from parking in planter strips. Citizens are able to come to the Traffic Safety Commission for an exception to the rules. Mr. Knorr also stated the Robert Soppe came to the meeting as mainly a citizen and a City Councilor. Mr. Soppe gave us some comments and one of them was a recommendation that we have staff report and then public hears that way citizens who come to the meeting have more information on the subject before they have a chance to speak.

Doris Brandt would like to welcome John Featherston to the Traffic Safety Commission on behalf of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Traffic Safety Commission.

MOTION: Brandt/Wimmer to adjourn at 8:30. (Unanimous) Motion carried.

Kathleen Bochart
Kathleen Bochart, Recording Secretary

3-13-06
Date

Mary Newell
Mary Newell, Support Services Manager

3/13/06
Date