

**TRAFFIC REVIEW COMMITTEE MINUTES
CITY OF FORT ATKINSON
DECEMBER 10, 2015 - 2:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Selle at 2:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Police Department.

Members Present: Andy Selle, Cm. Becker, Jeff Armstrong, Adrian Bump, Rudy Bushcott and Kent Smith

Members Absent: None

Others Present: City Manager Trebatoski, Tom Gerondale and Ryan Whisner of the Daily Union

1. Parking Requests:

a. Handicap Space at Beauty and the Bean.

Selle indicated this matter was tabled at the September, 2015 meeting to give Committee members more time to review the request. The owner of Beauty and the Bean had presented a letter requesting that the handicap stall in the rear (Water Street) of the property be abandoned and moved to the front of their building (East Milwaukee).

Becker moved, seconded by Selle, to approve the request for a handicapped stall to be marked on the north side of East Milwaukee Avenue between the sidewalk ramp and drive opening in front of Beauty and the Bean, contingent on the stall meeting all accessibility requirements. The motion carried on a 5-1 voice vote with Bump voting against the motion.

b. Temporary no-parking along East Blackhawk Drive (Ball Corp.).

Dave Dobke, Ball Corp., indicated their company will be having a major construction project beginning in mid-February and lasting until June 1 and are requesting that construction workers be allowed to park their personal vehicles in the street on the north side of Blackhawk Drive. They have investigated a few options and this is one of them they came up with. The job trailers will be parked in the rear of the building as well as other construction vehicles. Selle felt there may be a safety issue with people parking their vehicles along this street with the amount of truck traffic using Blackhawk Drive. Dobke said they have thought about possibly contacting the owners of the K-Mart building to see if they could use their parking lot and bus people to the plant, and looking into other possibilities as well.

Selle moved, seconded by Bump, to approve to the request to temporarily lift the parking restriction on the north side of East Blackhawk Drive adjacent to the Ball Corp.

contingent on Ball talking with adjacent property owners and to have a back-up plan in place if this parking on Blackhawk Drive poses problems. The motion carried on a 5-1 voice vote with Selle voting against the motion.

- c. Permanent no parking along Mehta Lane (both sides)

It was indicated the businesses that exit onto this street all have their own parking lots; therefore it was felt there would not be a need for on-street parking.

Motion by Becker, seconded by Bump, to restrict parking on both sides of Mehta Lane from Reena Avenue to the west end of the street. The motion carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

- d. South Street one-side no parking during school hours.

The request was made indicating there is a grid lock in this area when parents are dropping off or picking up kids from school. Bump indicated if the parking on South Street was restricted, it would put more cars on Main Street which would be hazardous.

Motion by Bushcott, seconded by Armstrong to deny the request to restrict parking on one side of South Street. The motion carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

- e. Discuss no parking area on Robert Street north of Madison Avenue.

It was indicated when cars are parked in this area, it causes a backup of vehicles trying to travel north and south on Robert Street.

Motion by Selle, seconded by Becker, to restrict parking on the east side of Robert Street from a point 100 feet north of Madison Avenue that is currently restricted going north to the second drive opening. The motion carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

2. Speed Limit Reviews:

- a. School Speed Limit Sign east of Purdy School on Whitewater Avenue.

A police officer suggested that the flashing light be moved from its current location further south, near the intersection of McKee Court to give drivers more advanced notice of the approaching school zone.

Selle moved, seconded by Bump, that temporarily a school zone sign be placed at the intersection of Whitewater Avenue and McKee Court for northbound traffic; that once permission is received from WeEnergies, the existing flashing school warning light be moved to the pole at the intersection of Whitewater Avenue and McKee Court; and that a long-term option for signage be looked at for this area. The motion carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

3. Traffic Signal Reviews:

a. Stop Sign at West Sherman Avenue and Roosevelt Street.

Selle indicated this matter was tabled at the September, 2015 meeting to do more research. The Police Department conducted traffic and speed studies for the area, and found the numbers would not warrant a stop sign in this area.

Selle moved, seconded by Becker, to deny request for a stop sign at West Sherman Avenue and Roosevelt Street. The motion carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

b. Stop Signs at Uncontrolled Intersection at Janette and Council Street.

Currently there is no signage at this intersection. Bump indicated it would make the intersection much safer. Selle indicated if approved, the sign would be placed at the quadrant of the intersection that is consistent with other signage in the area.

Selle moved, seconded by Becker, to place stop signs at the intersection of Janette Street and Council Street, and to place the signs on the quadrants that are consistent with other signage in the area. The motion carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

c. Stop sign at Reena Avenue and Mehta Lane.

Selle moved, seconded by Becker, to place a stop sign on Mehta Lane at its intersection with Reena Avenue. The motion carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

d. Middle School traffic pattern.

There is a major backup/bottleneck problem while parents are dropping off and picking students up at the Middle School. It was indicated maybe South High Street could be changed to two-way traffic instead of one-way. Bushcott will prepare sketches for the next meeting of the area. Bump indicated he would have officers monitor the amount of cars parked on South High Street overnight. He will also work up a survey to distribute to neighboring property owners, included St. Paul's Church regarding the possibility of changing South High Street to two-way traffic. No action taken.

4. Miscellaneous

a. Establish Truck Routes through Town

Selle said currently the City does not have truck routes posted through town except coming off the Bypass onto North High Street. This truck route leads drivers onto Clarence Street where they are faced with a dead end. Selle indicated he feels there is more truck route signage needed. He would like to see the truck route signage that leads trucks to the area of the former Lorman facility removed. His goals for this item would

be to get truck traffic onto the streets that are constructed to handle truck traffic and to alleviate as much truck traffic as possible in the downtown area.

Bump moved, seconded by Selle to remove the truck route signage that is currently in place directing trucks to the Lorman facility at Lorman and Clarence Streets. The motion carried on a 6-0 voice vote.

b. Redesign intersection at Reena Avenue and Madison Avenue

Bushcott suggested the island at this location be removed. Bump said that may cause backups if a vehicle comes off of Madison Avenue and tries to turn left into the first drive opening for Kwik Trip. Bushcott indicated larger trucks are still having problems maneuvering the turning onto Reena Avenue. Bump suggested maybe a round-about would be an alternative to look at for this location. Smith said that may cause problems for snow plows. The matter was tabled for more investigation for the next meeting.

c. Discussion development at Madison Avenue/Main Street

Selle indicated with Rate Watch moving into the building at 201 North Main Street, it is going to bring in another 70+ cars to the area. There has been an indication that McDonald's may be moving their location to the north and be at the intersection of Madison Avenue and North Main. If that were to transpire, there may be a need to review the drive openings allowed onto Main Street and Madison Avenue. This matter was tabled and will be discussed at a future meeting.

5. Adjournment

Selle moved, seconded by Becker, the Traffic Review Committee meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Andy Selle, Chairman