

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes of September 19, 2014

PRESENT: Chief Baker, Lt. Geno, Chief Schlachter, Jeff Wennberg, Jon Kiernan, James Rotonado, Butch Shaw, Jerry Hansen

GUEST(S): Dr. Ted Shattuck

The meeting was called to order by Chief Baker at 9:03 A.M. Minutes from July 25, 2014 meeting were accepted as written and today's meeting agenda was approved.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Addressing the issue of lowering the speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph on Rutland City streets, guest Dr. Ted Shattuck presented the committee with a VTRANS Pedestrian & Pedacyclist Accident Data 2009-10 vs. 2012-13 Report that compared crashes, injuries and fatalities for the two periods between Burlington (population approx. 42,000) and Rutland City (population approx. 16,000). The City of Burlington reduced speed to 25 without putting out traffic counters. Dr. Shattuck acknowledged that the data in the report did not show clear and absolute evidence that the change in speed in Burlington had any significant or direct impact / improvement on lowering the number of crashes and injuries.

Continuing the discussion, a proposal to the City of Rutland for Outreach on Speed Limits in the City by the Rutland Regional Planning Commission (RRPC) was reviewed. The scope of the work to be performed in the proposal was completely reflective of what the Traffic Committee had discussed and requested from Susan Schreibman at a prior meeting. The proposal noted that further traffic data is required to understand the trends and causes of speed relative to accidents/crashes, and public outreach for citizen input is required to ensure that the process meets the needs as specified/requested by the community's members. The RRPC will facilitate and record the data collection process and provide the technical support necessary, assist with coordinating community outreach, as well as prepare and present findings to the City for a reasonable estimated cost of \$4,454. All committee members voted in favor of moving the RRPC Proposal forward as it is time sensitive due to weather and other RRPC scheduled commitments.

Next steps determined were:

1. Meet with Mayor, Treasurer and Board of Aldermen President to address the proposal cost being over \$3,000 and determine whether to proceed with RRPC as sole source provider or pursue other Requests for Proposals (RFP) if required.
 2. Place the proposal on the Mayor's Staff Meeting Agenda.
 3. Meet with Susan Schreibman from the RRPC.
 4. Identify a funding source.
 5. Determine time frame for project.
2. Kerry Harding, proprietor of a new business on Wales Street, listed on the meeting agenda to discuss area parking/loading zones was unable to make the meeting. Chief Baker will contact her to follow-up.
 3. Jeff Wennberg noted that DPW has a strategic plan set to replace street signs city-wide as mandated by Federal signage requirements. Signs will be larger with enhanced reflectivity; improving visibility and readability.

Discussion held regarding replacement sign for Chaffee Street. Residents have expressed preference to having the street signed as Chaffee Avenue, as it had been historically named prior to the registering of Chaffee Street as the legal E911 address. Jeff would like to honor the request of residents in that area and install the sign as Chaffee Avenue and he recommended that the

issue be moved to the Board of Highway Commissions Committee to ensure that the E911 address database gets properly updated. All voted in favor.

Street sign at Butterfly Avenue is missing the East Washington Street cross-street sign. Sign is scheduled to be placed.

4. Butch Shaw reports that traffic light signals in construction areas are the responsibility of the on-site Contractor. Butch is providing interim inspections at the request of Project Engineers. It is noted that some pedestrian crossing are not working properly and that some cameras are misaimed. Butch will work today on the pedestrian crossing at CKS which is out of order. Butch also noted that for any traffic signals being adversely affected due to rail crossings (i.e. at West Street/Park Street), the first call should be to the Railroad.

Lack of audio at the Deer Street Crossing Walk Signals will be addressed.

5. The right turn lane from Merchants Row, north onto West Street has been eliminated. Road striping of that change needs to be completed. No problems with change have been reported.
6. Some delays have been experienced with the Rt. 4/ Rt. 7 projects. Targeted completion date is end of 2014. Consideration will be given as to scheduling of when final painting will be applied; end of year or in the spring. Paving is anticipated to be complete prior to the need for snow removal by DPW. Should delays occur, a temporary pavement will be required to adjust for the varying elevations of pavement around the manhole covers.
7. Chief Baker noted that RCPD traffic details working with contractors, has expended a lot of resources for the department which is already facing staffing difficulties. There has been an overall shortage of flaggers as well.

To close out the meeting, Chief Baker asked if there were any other issues to discuss. No further issues were raised at this time. Meeting adjourned at 10:00 A.M.

Respectfully submitted by,

Mary-Kaye Zambon
Executive Assistant

Cc. Mayor
Captain Tucker
Lt. Geno
Police Commission
Board of Alderman
City Clerk
Post