

MINUTES
TRAFFIC COMMISSION
WAYNE GILLEY (OLD) CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS – March 15, 2012 – 4:00 P.M.
REGULAR MEETING

I. Meeting called to order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in the Wayne Gilley City Hall Council Chambers (103 SW 4th St.) by Barry Ezerski, Traffic Commission Chairman. The meeting notice and agenda were posted on the City Hall (212 SW 9th St.) bulletin board as required by State law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Cole, Barry Ezerski, Johnny Owens and Randy Somerlott

ALSO PRESENT: Sagar Medisetty, Traffic Engineer and Jackie Somerlott, Traffic Commission Secretary

MEMBERS ABSENT: SPC Alex Guess, David Means and Todd Weatherly

II. Approval of minutes from previous meeting (February 16, 2012)

MOVED BY: Owens; **SECOND BY:** Cole to accept the minutes as written.

AYE: Cole, Ezerski, Owens and Somerlott; **NAY:** None.

III. Consent Item(s)

None.

IV. New Business

- 1) Consider a request **(12-02)** from Mr. Charles P. Bonar Sr., 5502 NW Allan-A-Dale Lane to install a “STOP” sign or “YIELD” sign on westbound Sherwood Drive at the intersection of NW Sherwood Drive and NW Robinhood Drive.

The Traffic Engineer explained that this is a “T” intersection of two local residential streets posted at 25 mph. The driveway of 5403 NW Sherwood Dr is close to the intersection and a vehicle parked in the driveway could potentially block the sight distance for traffic on Sherwood Dr from seeing a southbound vehicle on Robinhood Dr and vice versa. Installing a STOP sign would assign the right-of-way to NW Robinhood Dr at the “T” intersection. *[No discussion]*.

MOVED BY: Cole; **SECOND BY:** Owens to install a “STOP” sign on westbound Sherwood Drive at the intersection of NW Sherwood Drive and NW Robinhood Drive;

AYE: Cole, Ezerski, Owens and Somerlott; **NAY:** None.

- V. Consider a request **(12-03)** from a Concerned Citizen to install a 25 mph speed limit sign on NW Denver Avenue near NW 31st Street;

The Traffic Engineer explained that NW Denver Ave is a long stretch of a roadway which extends from NW Sheridan Rd. in the east and to the west it stops just short of 38th St. At the location near 31st St. the approach on Denver

is on a hill, there is a downgrade and you can see that the approaches of NW Denver Ave near NW 31st St. are on a hill and the approach to the intersection of NW 27th St. and NW Denver Ave is on a curve. Because of the grade and the curvy road, it is staff's recommendation to install a 25 mph speed limit sign (to remind motorists of the speed).

MOVED BY: Owens; **SECOND BY:** Cole to install a 25 mph speed limit sign on NW Denver Avenue near NW 31st Street;

AYE: Cole, Ezerski, Owens and Somerlott; **NAY:** None.

- VI. Consider a request **(12-04)** from Ms. Sherry Havron, Principal of Adams Elementary School, to install "No Parking 8 am – 4 pm" signs on the west side of NW 35th Street from NW Ferris Avenue to the northern school boundary to prohibit parking on the school frontage.

The request came from the principal of John Adams Elementary School. NW 35th St. is a collector street connecting NW Cache Rd. and W Gore Blvd. and is posted at 25 mph. Currently parents who pick up and drop off kids park on both sides of NW 35th St. This causes problems for traffic during pick up and drop off times. It affects the free 2-way movement of traffic and the school principal says it is hard for school buses to come down 35th St. and make turns onto Ferris. Also it is very difficult for emergency vehicles to drive down 35th St. when cars are parked on both sides of the street. The principal has requested to eliminate parking on the west side of NW 35th St and allow parking on the east side. She said she would notify people/parents through newsletters and PTA meetings to park around the school on 35th Place and on Ferris Ave. This item was looked at by Traffic Commission in November 2008 previously. The request then was to eliminate parking on east side of NW 35th St. and keep the parking as is on west side so parents could still easily pick up kids and the kids don't have to cross the street. But residents didn't want to have no parking signs on their side of the street. So the request was denied and left "as is". Now the principal is requesting No Parking signs to be posted on the school property from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. so that if once in awhile if they have evening PTA meetings they can park after school hours. Ezerski asked if residents had been notified. Medisetty said no because it's just on the west side of 35th Street from 8:00 to 4:00. Officer Martin said that No Parking signs includes No Stopping, No Standing which means they can't drop off the kids. Martin says that's a problem they have at all schools.

MOVED BY: Cole; **SECOND BY:** Somerlott to install "No Parking 8 am – 4 pm" signs on the west side of NW 35th Street from NW Ferris Avenue to the northern school boundary to prohibit parking on the school frontage.

AYE: Cole, Ezerski, Owens and Somerlott; **NAY:** None.

- VII. **Audience Participation**
None

VIII. Other Discussion

Ezerski said at Starbucks, in the mornings between 7:30 – 9:30 cars are backed up onto Cache Rd. Cars come out of drive through and are extended onto 40th St. backed into Cache Rd and cars are now going into Arby's parking lot to go around them so they can get around Starbucks traffic. In the afternoon it's not as bad even though they are backed up into the street. He said he has seen at least 6 near accidents in the last week. For instance one could have been really bad. Someone came out of Starbucks and this one guy was on Cache Rd when the light had turned green and luckily the center lane was clear and he was able to veer to the left to avoid being broadsided. Medisetty asked if it's worse in the morning and Ezerski said yes and said something needs to be done or there will be a serious accident. Officer Martin said he would pass this along to the Deputy Chief, but Starbuck's is responsible. Ezerski said he knew they'd moved the drive through traffic back past the building. Ezerski said they didn't anticipate this problem. Medisetty said they have two driveways. Ezerski said they are pulling into the second driveway to get to the drive through. Somerlott said if there were 2 lanes it wouldn't be a problem. Medisetty said he will take a look.

IX. Adjournment

4:15 p.m.

The City of Lawton encourages participation from all of its citizens. If participation at any public meeting is not possible due to a disability, please notify the City Clerk at (580) 581-3305 at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting to make the necessary accommodations. The City may waive the 48 hour rule if signing interpreters for the deaf are not necessary.