

**TRAFFIC COMMISSION MINUTES
NEW CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
November 16, 2017 – 4:00 P.M.**

I. Meeting called to order – Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers (212 SW 9th 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: Carl Dentler, Barry Ezerski, Robert Kelso and Randy Somerlott

ALSO PRESENT: Larry Wolcott, Public Works Director, Cindy Porter, Traffic Commission Secretary, and Councilmember Dwight Tanner

MEMBERS ABSENT: David Means and Ted Warkentin

II. Approval of minutes from previous meeting (October 19, 2017) MOVED BY: Dentler;
SECOND BY: Somerlott to accept the minutes as written. **AYE:** Dentler, Ezerski, Kelso and Somerlott; **NAY:** None; **ABSTAIN:** None

III. Consent Item(s)

None

IV. Old Business

None

V. New Business

- 1) Consider a request (**17-20**) from Councilmember Dwight Tanner to designate times when the handicap parking spaces on the south side of the 500 block of SW ‘C’ Ave can be used by drivers who are not handicapped.

Wolcott stated CityCode 23-6-605 A: The City Council, by resolution, may establish parking time limits, or prohibit parking, on designated streets and public property by having appropriate signs placed thereon.

MUTCD does not address this situation. City code requires one handicap space for every 25 required spaces. Parking is not required for the downtown area. So typically you will have 1 handicap space at the end of each block, So 2 handicap spaces on each side of the street at the end of each block. In this situation you have 6 handicap spaces on south side of ‘C’ Avenue which serves the Comanche County Courthouse. This request is based on afterhours, after the courthouse closes to allow those handicap spaces to be converted to standard spaces.

Councilmember DwightTanner stated Vera Oldham, owner of the Silver Spoon restaurant approached him about 6 months ago when all the handicap parking was created across the street at the courthouse. County Commissioner, Johnny Owens stated that he did not have a problem with opening these spots up

afterhours. She has fairly limited parking as is and she needs additional parking in the evening when she does most of her business. It would be beneficial to her business if we could open up the parking to regular parking spots after courthouse hours.

Ezerski asked what the logistics would be to make this happen.

Wolcott replied that wording would have to be created for a regulatory sign to convey that message. This will be difficult to do since this is not a common situation that you see, being handicap part of the day and then part of the day being regular. It will probably cause enforcement issues once it occurs.

Ezerski agreed that lack of parking downtown afterhours was problem and then asked if there were additional handicap parking at the Courthouse.

Wolcott replied that there is additional handicap parking on the northside of the courthouse.

Ezerski asked if these spots were based on the layout of the Courthouse.

Wolcott replied that the ramp leading to the Courthouse was there to make it ADA compliant access.

Kelso asked if the handicap parking could be moved to the underground parking.

Dentler asked if staff could do further research and discuss the issue with the County and provide the committee with more information.

Officer Wittington stated that the underground parking was private and assigned parking for the Courthouse staff and Sheriff's department.

Tanner reiterated that the issue at hand is not during Courthouse hours, but rather after the courthouse closes.

Ezerski asked if there was adequate handicap parking on the northside of 'D' Avenue.

Tanner replied that there were just as many handicap spots on 'D' Avenue as there are on 'C' Avenue. There are other towns that employ the use of mulit-parking signs that state after a certain time, these spots are open to general parking. If enforcement becomes an issue, that is something that can be addressed at that time.

MOVED BY: Dentler; **SECOND BY:** Somerlott to table this item and direct staff to do further investigation into the request. **AYE:** AYE: Dentler, Ezerski, Kelso and Somerlott; **NAY:** None

- 2) Consider a request **(17-21)** from Janice Wilson to install horizontal alignment signs on SE Interstate Drive, near 201 SE Interstate Drive.

Wolcott stated was made after a recent accident in front of one of the hotels on SE Interstate Drive. Based on the accident history and the sharp curves, staff recommends installation of signs at the north end and the south end of SE Intestate Drive.

MOVED BY: Dentler; **SECOND BY:** Somerlott to accept staff recommendation to install horizontal alignment signs at curves near 201 SE Interstate Drive and at SE Park Ave. **AYE:** Dentler, Ezerski, Kelso and Somerlott; **NAY:** None

- 3) Consider a request (**17-22**) from Dan Garcia to install NO 'U' TURN sign on eastbound NW Rogers Lane at NW Morningside Drive.

Wolcott stated that the median opening does not have a left turn bay to provide stacking for vehicles waiting to perform a 'U' turn.

MOVED BY: Somerlott; **SECOND BY:** Dentler to accept staff recommendation to intall No 'U' TURN sign on eastbound NW Rogers Lane at NW Morningside Drive. **AYE:** Dentler, Ezerski, Kelso and Somerlott; **NAY:** None; **ABSTAIN:** None

VI. Audience Participation

None

VII. Adjournment

4:16 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 schedule meeting to make the necessary accommodations. The City may waive the 48 hour rule if signing interpreters for the deaf are not necessary.