

Safety, Traffic, & Parking

10/26/10 Meeting MINUTES

Present: L. Denamur, Alderman S. McMeans, D. Weber, A. Habeck, A. Schuette, R. Wolfe
Absent: J. Zimmer, P. Kohlmeier, R. Kramer, J. Xiong, J. Wigen
Other Staff & Alderpersons: Deputy Chief Brennan, City Engineer V. Mellon, Deputy City Engineer G. Minikel, Alderman Brey

1. Called to Order at 4:00 by D. Weber
2. Did not call for a motion to approve previous minutes of 9/28/10.
3. Communications:
 - A. **Brooke Schreiner, Invincible Office Furniture – pedestrian crossing S 26th Street**

Invincible employee Barb Seidler requested the committee consider a crosswalk from the employee parking lot to the building, which would mean adding a crosswalk mid-block. A. Schuette made a motion to deny the request. A. Habeck seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
 - B. **Proposed No Parking on South 9th Street**
 - Discussion began with Dennis Van's request for a No Parking sign in front of his home at 1310 S. 9th St due to that particular area not being big enough to legally park a vehicle the required 4 ft from driveways. If the other half of S. 9th St parking issue passes it would take care of this problem which is why it was being discussed side by side.
 - The other half of the South 9th St parking issue brought by Alderman J. Brey requesting a permanent no parking zone on the west side of S 9th St from Madison to Green St. was then discussed. J. Brey explained that the parking issue on S. 9th started with the block between Columbus and Madison and expanded from there. He also mentioned that one side of the block parking is what the neighbors wanted. DC Brennan informed the committee that she received two calls opposing the permanent no parking request, one from the school and the other a citizen. Several neighbors were present and voiced their opinions and offered suggestions. One neighbor stated that she was in favor of one side parking only and the others that spoke were happy with the way it is now restricting the parking during school days but would not be in favor of making it outside of school hours also. What appeared to be a big issue for them was the number of painted parking stalls in front of the homes. In an effort to try to squeeze in as many stalls as possible it left some areas too tight resulting in vehicles parking way too close to the driveways making it difficult for the residents to get in and out. A suggestion was made to make only one parking stall in front of each house. Another big issue for the neighbors was vehicles having difficulty getting through during the congested times, especially if buses are present. A suggestion was made to widen the road on JFK side for buses. Mr. Shaw from MPSD said that the school is working on narrowing the sidewalk by JFK to make room for bus drop off/pick up and also stated that like the neighbors they too are satisfied with the temporary parking currently in place. The current temporary parking restrictions are No parking on the west side of South 9th Street from Madison Street to Green Street between the hours of 7:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M., while Lincoln High School is in session (School Days)"

After much discussion about both issues involving parking on S. 9th St. R. Wolfe made a motion to make the current temporary parking restrictions permanent and have Engineering research all the parking areas and make the stalls consistent with the parking laws. S. McMeans seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- C. Gerry Neuser – Asst Director Mtwc Co DPW – No parking S. 9th in front of new bldg.**
Discussion was had about this request for “No Parking” on South 9th St in front of new County building. Engineering’s G. Minikel recommended eliminating 110 feet of parking. S. McMeans made a motion to grant the request. L. Denamur seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- D. Ruth Schmidt – loading zone in 900 block Hancock St**
Discussed this request to rescind the ordinance for the loading zone in 900 block of Hancock St due to it no longer being a loading zone. L. Denamur made a motion to repeal the ordinance. A. Schuette seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- E. AAA Appliance (Sarah) – 2 hr parking on York St between N 9th & N 10th**
Discussion revealed that the 2 hr Parking Restriction on York St has been in effect for several years however it was only recently signed which resulted in AAA requesting a few unlimited parking stalls for their employees. Further discussion revealed that the parking stalls on N 10th St between Maritime Drive and York St are actually unlimited per ordinance and the 2 hour signs that are up will be taken down.
- F. Lt. Paul Schermetzler – crosswalk at Monroe School**
Lt Schermetzler explained the current protocol for dropping off/picking up children at Monroe Elementary School. He then proposed a much safer plan for crossing children which would require a new ramp crosswalk at the entrance of the north school driveway and elimination of the current crosswalk that’s just south of that. L. Denamur made a motion to approve the request. A. Habeck seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- G. Gary Stryhn, Felician Village – no parking request on S 21st St**
Discussion was had on this request for “No Parking” signs on each side of curb cut out at 1511 S. 21st St to enable dropping off/picking up however DC Brennan stated that putting up No Parking signs would mean nobody could park there to drop off/pick up so the signs would have to say “No Parking except for the sole purpose of loading and unloading motor vehicles”. R. Wolfe made a motion to grant the request with the appropriate wording. A. Schuette seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- H. Wes Patterson – parking in front of Tony’s Pizza**
This request was to consider removing the on street parking on Washington St in front of Tony's Pizza. Discussion and accident data revealed that it did not warrant the removal of parking. Motion was made by L. Denamur to deny the request. A. Habeck seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- I. Tony Burgarino - parking issues on Park St. from N. 10th St. to the west**
Committee discussed the layout of Park St from N. 10th to the west but no action was taken.
- 4. Old Business:**
- A.** V. Mellon informed the committee that the city received a Safe Routes to School Grant for new sidewalks on N 8th St and on Michigan Ave by the new St Francis of Assissi school. She figures design in 2011 and construction in 2012. She also mentioned that they did not receive any funding for the Jackson school issue but will keep trying.
- 5. New Business:**
- A.** G. Minikel recommended reducing the speed limit on Michigan Avenue to 25 miles per hour from County Trunk Highway “R” (N. Rapids Rd.) to River Bluff Drive by the new school. A. Schuette made a motion to approve Engineering’s recommendation. R. Wolfe seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 6. Meeting adjourned at 5:24pm.**