

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, August 13, 2020 at 6:00PM

Present: Chair Trustee Katy Cornell, Trustee Kim Irwin, President Neil Palmer, Committee Members, Mr. John Schindler, Mr. DJ Richlen and Mr. John Oliveri.

Members Excused: Ms. Barbara Decker

Also Present: Village Manager David De Angelis and Police Chief Jim Gage.

1. Call the meeting to order

The meeting was called to order, at 6:03p.m., by Trustee Cornell.

2. Review and approve minutes from July 9, 2020.

Trustee Cornell entertained a motion for approval. President Palmer made a motion for approval of the minutes, Mr. Oliveri seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Review crosswalk study for Legion Drive and Elmhurst Pkwy and make recommendation.

Trustee Cornell asked Chief Gage to summarize the study. Chief Gage indicated that the study did not recommend crosswalks, but did summarize several recommendations, as follows:

- A stop sign for west bound Elmhurst at Legion Drive.
- Remove asphalt connection to the pathway on the west side of Legion with two asphalt connectors to better align pedestrians to Elmhurst Parkway.
- Install an intersection light.
- Install speed feedback signs for north and south Legion Drive.

Trustee Cornell asked if there were any other survey companies that the village uses. President Palmer provided information on other survey companies and how the village ultimately selects a survey company.

Mr. Schindler indicated that he had conducted some independent research on best practices for crosswalk installations and that the study supports the recommendations that he had researched.

President Palmer made a motion to accept the recommendations of the study to install the stop sign, make the asphalt adjustments, install the intersection lighting and install the speed feedback signs for both north and south bound Legion Drive. Trustee Irwin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Review crosswalk request for Juneau Blvd. at Ridgeway and make recommendation.

Mr. Tom Shepard, of 1040 Katherine Drive, provided an overview of perceived issues for the intersection, indicating that is difficult to cross the road since there is no crosswalk across Juneau Blvd. or any connecting asphalt from Juneau Blvd. to the pedestrian pathway on the North side of Juneau Blvd. Mr. Shepard asked the Committee to conduct a study of the intersection, similar to the study for Elmhurst and Legion.

In light of the Elmhurst study not recommending unprotected crosswalks, the Committee felt that the Ridgeway location would not lend itself to a protected crosswalk, since any additional traffic controls would be located in close proximity to the railroad tracks and the hilly topography would not provide a clear view of the intersection.

Discussion centered on trying to make improvements to the intersection. Based on this conversation, the Committee identified the following:

- Trim back the brush on the southwest corner of the intersection to improve line of sight for pedestrians.
- Install asphalt to connect the north side of Juneau Blvd. to the pedestrian pathway.
- Install a west bound speed feedback sign for Juneau Blvd, east of the intersection.
- Research possible warning signs for the intersection.

President Palmer made a motion to accept the improvements identified by the Committee, as outlined above. Mr. Oliveri seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Trustee Irwin left the meeting at 7:00p.m.

5. Other Business.

Trustee Cornell asked about the pathway process and status, since there are a number of residents interested in the pathway topic, especially related to pathway connectivity and developing a cohesive plan for an improved walkable community. President Palmer indicated that there is an existing survey and pathway rank order that was established a few years ago. Mr. DeAngelis indicated that he could distribute the information for the Committee's review at a future meeting.

There was discussion about adding a speed feedback sign for eastbound Watertown Plank Road, in an area west of Sunnyslope Road, since we are obtaining signs for the other locations. It was suggested that the sign be added to the Highway Department budget for review during the budget process.

Mr. Schindler asked if some of his points regarding urban chickens could be added to the record, since he missed the topic at the last meeting. It was suggested by President Palmer that he send his comments to the Legislative Committee and all members of the Public Safety Committee, so that everyone is in the loop. He suggested that he send the information to Mr. DeAngelis, so it gets sent to the right parties to avoid any potential open meeting rule violations.

6. Adjournment.

Trustee Cornell made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:10p.m. President Palmer seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

James P Gage
Chief of Police