

CITY OF WAUWATOSA
7725 WEST NORTH AVENUE
WAUWATOSA, WI 53213
Telephone: (414) 479-8917
Fax: (414) 479-8989

**TRAFFIC AND SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
Tuesday, April 8, 2003**

PRESENT: Alds. Becker, Herzog, Krol, Matthews -4

EXCUSED: Ald. McCarthy

ALSO

PRESENT: W. Kappel, Dir. of Public Works; W. Wehrley, City Eng.

Ald. Krol in the Chair called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m.

Removal of Turn Prohibitions on W. Burleigh and N. 122nd Streets

Mr. Kappel reported that Briggs & Stratton has requested removal of the signs prohibiting left and right turns into their parking lot from W. Burleigh Street at N. 122nd Street. The signs control traffic flow between 3 and 4 p.m. but are no longer needed due to decreased traffic entering and exiting the parking lot. This is similar to the entrance/exit west of the J.C. Penney building where restrictions were removed last year. Mr. Kappel indicated that there is a need to move forward somewhat quickly so that Briggs & Stratton has free usage of this driveway during reconstruction of N. 124th Street this summer. He recommended proceeding with removal of signage at a time convenient to the company and the City following introduction of an ordinance change.

Moved by Ald. Matthews, seconded by Ald. Becker to recommend to Council introduction of an ordinance to remove left and right turn prohibitions on W. Burleigh Street at N. 122nd Street. Ayes: 4

Traffic Control Signals at N. 124th and W. Feerick Streets

Mr. Wehrley reported that traffic control needs at the intersection of N. 124th and W. Feerick Streets were examined in connection with the scheduled repaving of N. 124th Street between W. Burleigh Street and W. Capitol Drive this summer. It was determined that the intersection would meet established warrants for traffic signals. There is a McDonald's at the northeast corner and a Culver's under construction in Brookfield at the southwest corner. Feerick Street ends in a cul-de-sac some distance to the east. J.C. Penney Company owns land near the cul de sac that is used for truck storage and queuing and is interested in connecting that area to Feerick Street, potentially adding considerable traffic to the intersection.

Mr. Wehrley detailed funding considerations in connection with signalization. Penneys agreed last summer to reimburse design costs up to \$13,000 with the stipulation that the City apply for a Wisconsin Department of Transportation TEA grant to offset some of the installation costs. Unfortunately, the City is not eligible for the TEA grant due to timing of the application. J.C. Penney apparently assumed that the grant would cover 100% of the signal costs, and they are unwilling to participate beyond the \$13,000 amount. The City of Brookfield was also approached last year, since they have typically shared the cost of traffic signals on abutting streets, but they indicated that they have no available funding. Culver's is also not interested in participating.

Tom Gerlach, 12015 Meadow Court, described the traffic situation in this area as unsafe and said that left turns onto 124th Street from any of the businesses are almost impossible. He noted that there has been much development in this area but the traffic signals on N. 124th Street between Capitol Drive and North Avenue have not been updated over the past 35 years. He supported the installation of signals at Feerick Street and felt that Brookfield should share in the cost considering the benefit to development on their side of the street.

In response to questions, Mr. Kappel indicated that the City could pay for the installation now by transferring funds from current capital improvement allocations and using STP credits. The City could establish a future assessment to J. C. Penney for a portion of the cost should they be granted access to Feerick Street. Mr. Kappel noted that Home Depot paid for major traffic improvements when they built their store on 124th Street north of Capitol Drive. He expressed frustration that both Brookfield and Culver's will benefit here but are unwilling to participate. He said that there have been complaints from businesses, especially about noon-time traffic, and that will only compound in the future.

There was further discussion of costs, funding, and use of STP credits, and there were additional comments on the need for participation by Brookfield, Penneys, and other businesses including Culvers and perhaps McDonalds. Mr. Kappel clarified that the issue is brought to this committee from the aspect of public safety. The Budget and Finance Committee is expected to address the funding aspects later tonight.

The Chair expressed support for signalization from a public safety standpoint, but there were concerns about separating the funding issue. Mr. Kappel noted that any future connection to Feerick Street would probably require action by this committee, at which time assessment to J.C. Penney could be discussed. City Attorney Kesner was then called upon to clarify the committee's role and advise on any motion that would be made.

Moved by Ald. Matthews, seconded by Ald. Becker to approve traffic signals at N. 124th and W. Feerick Streets from a public safety standpoint contingent upon Budget & Finance approval and with a provision for deferred assessment to J. C. Penney for a portion of the cost of the signals if they are granted access to Feerick Street in the future –

Ald. Herzog felt that the motion should address only the traffic signal itself, leaving Budget & Finance to deal with funding issues rather than tying their hands by stating that J. C. Penney should be assessed.

With consent of Ald. Matthews, Ald. Becker amended the motion by restating the contingency as a recommendation to the Committee on Budget and Finance to provide for deferred assessment to J. C. Penney in connection with access to Feerick Street and for participation in the costs by the adjacent businesses and

municipality. Vote on the motion as amended, Ayes: 4

Proposed Ordinance – Two-Hour Parking on N. 115th Street

The committee reviewed the proposed ordinance amending Section 11.32.080 of the Code to create a two-hour parking zone on the west side of N. 115th Street from the alley north of North Avenue to the north lot line at 2313 N. 115th Street.

Moved by Ald. Becker, seconded by Ald. Herzog to recommend to Council adoption of the ordinance. Ayes: 4

Proposed Ordinance – One-Half Hour Parking on N. 108th Place

The committee reviewed the proposed ordinance amending Section 11.32.080 of the Code to create a one-half hour parking restriction on the east side of N. 108th Place from the driveway of 580 N. 108th Place to a point 150 feet north thereof. Mr. Kappel noted that this modifies the 90-day trial as discussed at the previous meeting.

Moved by Ald. Matthews, seconded by Ald. Becker to recommend to Council adoption of the ordinance. Ayes: 4

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk
Wauwatosa, Wisconsin

es