



CITY OF WAUWATOSA
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TRAFFIC & SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, March 25, 2014
Committee Room #1

PRESENT: Aids. McBride, Moldenhauer, Pantuso, Roznowski, Wilke (7:39 p.m.) – 4

ALSO PRESENT: B. Porter, Public Works Director; A. Brown, Senior Mgmt. Specialist

Ald. McBride as Vice-chair called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Ordinance amending Section 11.32.080 of the Wauwatosa Municipal Code to add parking restrictions on the west side of North 113th Street from Center Street to Clarke Street

Mr. Porter said that this ordinance amending section 11.32.080 of the city code is to add parking restrictions on the west side of North 113th Street from Center Street to Clarke Street and was sent to the Common Council for introduction. It is back on the committee agenda for adoption.

Mr. Porter said he has not received any feedback from residents.

Moved by Ald. Pantuso, seconded by Ald. Roznowski
to recommend adoption of ordinance amending section 11.32.080
of the city code to add parking restrictions on the
west side of North 113th Street from Center Street to Clarke Street – Ayes: 4

Ordinance amending Section 11.36.200 of the Wauwatosa Municipal Code to add No U Turn restrictions on Center Street in front of Wauwatosa West and Eisenhower Schools

Mr. Porter noted that this ordinance amending section 11.36.200 of the city code is to add No U Turn restrictions on Center Street in front of Wauwatosa West and Eisenhower Schools was sent to the Council for introduction. This item is back on the agenda for adoption.

Mr. Porter said that he has received a few positive comments from residents.

Moved by Ald. Pantuso, seconded by Ald. Roznowski
to recommend adoption of ordinance amending section 11.36.200
of the city code to add No U Turn restrictions on Center – Ayes: 4

Ordinance amending Section 11.32.080 parking restriction on State St.

Mr. Porter reported that this ordinance amending section 11.32.080 of the city code adding parking restrictions on the north side of State Street at 7018 W. State Street and was sent to Council for introduction. This item is back tonight for adoption.

Moved by Ald. Roznowski, seconded by Ald. Moldenhauer
to recommend adoption of ordinance amending section 11.32.080
of the city code for parking restrictions on State St. – Ayes: 4

Temporary stop signs and possible use of speed tables

The committee reviewed a memo from the Director of Public Works requesting temporary stop signs and possible use of speed tables at Fiebrantz Avenue and Glenway Street.

Currently there is a two-way stop sign posted at this intersection affecting Glenway Street traffic. Staff was contacted by an area resident requesting that a four-way stop sign be erected due to the increased possibility of cut through traffic as a result of Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) construction on Mayfair Road in 2014.

Mr. Porter said that WisDOT will erect signage to discourage traffic from cutting through the neighborhood, although some cut through traffic is unavoidable.

Mr. Porter explained the options available include installing the stop sign on a temporary basis, exploring the use of portable speed tables or taking no action.

Mr. Porter told the committee that this request would not be on a trial basis but would remain through the 2014 construction season. Since this construction has already started, Mr. Porter said the most immediate action would be to install the stop signs. The other options can be used if necessary at a later time. The residents would be polled to see if there would be an interest in the speed table usage. The DOT could also be asked to provide additional barricades and signs for local traffic only.

Ald. McBride noted that the Public Works Director has the authority to put up temporary stop signs for urgent situations.

The committee discussed the timeline to install a speed table. Mr. Porter said that there would be a need for an interactive process with the neighbors first and he is still working on the draft policy for this.

The committee felt that there should be discussions with the neighborhood as necessary regarding the installation of speed tables and with the DOT regarding additional signage.

Moved by Ald. Roznowski, seconded by Ald. Pantuso
to immediately make the intersection at Fiebrantz Avenue and
Glenway Street a four-way stop – Ayes: 4

Request for a 90-day trial parking restrictions on 70th Street from State Street to St. James Street

The committee reviewed a memo from the Director of Public Works regarding a request for a 90-day trial of parking restrictions on 70th Street from State Street to St. James Street.

Staff and area alderpersons were contacted by a resident expressing concerned about visibility issues for cars entering and leaving the Pick N Save lot south entrance onto 70th Street and potential conflicts with cars travelling on 70th Street.

Mr. Porter noted that there already are parking restrictions in force that prohibit parking within 20 feet of the driveway on both the north and south side of the Pick N Save driveway although no signs are posted. Mr. Porter suggested that possibly during some utility work the signs were removed and never replaced.

Chuck Erickson, 7044 Auburn Ave., said he was the resident who submitted the request and was happy to hear that action will be taken and signs posted.

Crossing Guard program

Anthony Brown said that this item is coming back for further discussion. As discussed at the meeting of December 10, 2013 the committee asked for further information on bringing the crossing guard program in-house, and continue the study of crossing guards and locations.

Mr. Brown discussed further the idea of bringing the crossing guard program in-house. The Ad Hoc committee had suggested there would be an estimated savings of \$25,000 for doing so. Other concerns were raised including risk exposure of insurance, workers compensation claims, and lack of personnel in Human Resources to implement the program. Mr. Brown said this bringing this program in-house is not recommended.

Mr. Brown reviewed with the committee the findings from the Ad Hoc committee regarding requests for crossing guards. He said that a benchmark needs to be established to help elected officials determine the need for a crossing guard location.

Mr. Brown said that the requestor will collect the necessary information to help determine the extent of the conflict between the pedestrian and vehicular movement. This information shall include:

- Identifying a safe walk route to school
- Road conditions of requested crossing
- Sight distance including obstructions
- Presence or absence of traffic calming devices
- Posted vehicle speed
- Volumes of traffic and pedestrians
- Crash and accident history

The committee discussed the need for benchmarks which help understand the purpose and the rationale of a request. A request form will be submitted after having discussions with Administration who will talk to the requestor and collect pertinent information. After that the request form would be turned in to the City Clerk to be placed on the Traffic & Safety committee agenda.

It was felt that this process would make individuals not only think about crossing guards and locations but also encourage them to look at safe routes to school. It is a lengthy process to request a crossing guard location so it was felt that only sincere requests would be received.

Ald. Moldenhauer talked about bringing the program in-house and why it was not being recommended. Mr. Brown said the committee had talked at length in December and with other feed-back received that the City would be taking on a lot of potential risk for a small amount of savings. Ald. Moldenhauer felt that other communities do this in-house and that Wauwatosa should be able to handle it as well. He felt that there is an insurance liability for every employee the city hires.

Ald. Roznowski further explained that the Finance Director was at the December meeting and he presented to the committee a degree of concern due to the liability bringing this in-house. It was felt that the crossing guards

would be a higher liability than other employees. Ald. Roznowski said that only one vendor has responded to our bid process so the city is limited.

Ald. Roznowski liked the idea of Safe Routes to School being incorporated with the crossing guard program.

Ald. Wilke present - 7:39 p.m.

Ald. Wilke, 8th District alderman questioned whether or not the potential savings would be offset by the additional risk.

Ald. McBride shared the concern that there are a lot of hidden costs bringing this program in-house. There appears to be a lot of turn-over with crossing guards that would put a burden on the Human Resources Dept. Twin City Security Inc., has the advantage of moving people around to fill positions when guards don't show up or call in sick, the numbers are in their favor. The city wouldn't necessarily have the resources to do this if done in-house.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

Carla A. Ledesma, City Clerk
City of Wauwatosa

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