

RYAN GRIM
Chief of Police



300 W BARAGA AVENUE
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(906)228-0400

GREG KINONEN
Captain of Detectives

JAMES FINKBEINER
Captain of Patrol Operations

City of Marquette
TPAC Traffic/Parking Advisory Committee
MINUTES 12/19/2023

I. Meeting located in Conference Room # 103, lower level of Marquette City Hall

II. Meeting Called to Order:

5:00 PM

III. Roll Call:

Present: Orville Dishno, Gerald Kujawa, Barb Owdziej, Colleen Roberts
Others Present: Police Liaison Captain Finkbeiner, Joseph Buys, city resident

IV: Approval of Agenda: ☐

Approval of the agenda was motioned by Dishno; seconded by Roberts. Approved.

V: Approval of minutes:

Minutes submitted by: Barb Owdziej
Approval of the previous meeting minutes was motioned by Kujawa; seconded by Dishno. Approved.

VI: Public Comments:

1. Comments/presentation by Marquette City resident Joseph Buys

Mr. Buys asked if there were any updates on issues of traffic light timing that he brought up at the November TPAC (Traffic and Parking Advisory Committee) meeting. Captain Finkbeiner had mentioned the issue with the city engineers but did not have any updates.

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Mr. Buys asked why the city engineer was not a member of or designated liaison to the Traffic and Parking Advisory Committee. Captain Finkbeiner stated that the city engineer is available to attend meetings if requested.

Mr. Buys asked if committee members could list their emails on the city website to make it easier to make a public comment. Dishno stated that the public could make comment in person at the monthly meetings.

Mr. Buys was curious why stop signs were placed on 7th street at the intersection of Magnetic and 7th when the traffic signal lights were temporarily covered. He was curious about the decision process and if TPAC was consulted. Captain Finkbeiner cited that the city engineering department had conducted a study and determined that the lights were no longer appropriate in those locations. Captain Finkbeiner said the stop sign was helpful in slowing traffic on 7th street and aided pedestrians/bikers crossing Seventh Street at a controlled crossing.

Captain Finkbeiner mentioned that city engineers were looking at the light at Presque Isle and College Avenue. Mr. Buys commented that there should be a timer at the location, to reflect the uneven traffic patterns due to the proximity to the school.

Owdziej commented that it would be helpful to have a representative from city engineering to help understand the studies that the department conducts.

Mr. Buys expressed concern about the unfinished sidewalk along Wilson Street from McClellan to US-41. He has observed people walking on the street and people using motorized wheelchairs during fast-moving traffic.

Captain Finkbeiner stated that he would ask a representative from engineering to attend the next meeting.

VII: Old Business:

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1. East Washington Street/Lakeshore Boulevard Intersection

- a. Concerns regarding the sightlines in the area.

Roberts cited plans for new building development on Lakeshore Boulevard and believed a stop sign should be added on Lakeshore Boulevard at the intersection with Washington Street so pedestrians could have a safe place to cross Lakeshore Boulevard.

Owdziej agreed that a stop sign at the intersection would be helpful.

Dishno stated that there should not be changes to the signs until construction began.

Captain Finkbeiner stated that he would ask engineering about the intersection.

VIII: New Business:

1. TPAC Meeting times/dates for 2024

- a. Dates/times due in the Clerk's office by 12/22/2023.

Owdziej approved of the meeting times and dates for 2024. Roberts seconded the motion. Approved.

2. Lakeshore/Hawley Street Crosswalk

- a. Possible change to the Bicycle Crossing sign.
b. Make it a Pedestrian/Bicycle combination sign in both directions.

Dishno requested that the existing bicycle crossing sign be changed to both a bicycle/pedestrian crossing sign, with the hopes that it would encourage cars to stop for pedestrians.

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Captain Finkbeiner showed an image of what a combination bicycle/pedestrian sign looks like.

Dishno motioned to change the sign to a bicycle/pedestrian combination sign. Roberts seconded the motion. All in favor. Approved.

3. Wright Street/ Industrial area problems crossing the roadway.
 - a. Suggested addition of an automated push-button style crosswalk light to help alleviate the long waits to cross Wright Street in the Industrial Boulevard area. (08)

Owdziej stated that there was confusion about if cars should stop for pedestrians at crosswalk where the multi-use path crosses Wright Street. She believed it would be helpful if a pedestrian crossing system were installed where pedestrians could push a button to activate a light that would stop traffic and allow for a safe crossing.

Dishno commented that we might need guidance on installing a system that is new to Marquette and questioned if traffic turning from Industrial Boulevard would need signals as well to alert them that pedestrians were crossing. Captain Finkbeiner believed that some signals would be needed on Industrial Boulevard.

Captain Finkbeiner recommended a pedestrian island at this location to make crossing safer.

Captain Finkbeiner questioned whether this system would be legal on Michigan streets. He would ask engineering about the legality.

4. TPAC Presentation Work Session

No comments.

IX: Committee Comments:

Dishno: Stated that city commissioners aim to attend advisory meetings on some dates in the future.

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Kujawa recommended to the committee the book *Confessions of a Recovering Engineer* by Charles Marohn.

Roberts mentioned that when school is let out, the middle of the intersection at Lincoln and Washington is blocked during red lights. She mentioned observing a police presence on Lincoln Avenue. Captain Finkbeiner stated that Lincoln was often patrolled due to the high traffic and length of the road.

Roberts commented on the loss of on-street parking during the winter outside of the senior center, even when there was not snow present. Captain Finkbeiner stated that the parking change in the winter is needed in this area because of the narrowness of the roadway. It needs to be enforced even if there was no snow present for consistency.

He stated that if the senior center were holding a big event in winter that increased the parking demand, the police could temporarily allow for more parking or make other types of arrangements.

Owdziej wondered where the revenue from parking tickets went. Captain Finkbeiner stated they went to the city's general fund.

X: Motion to Adjourn:

Owdziej motioned to adjourn; concurred by committee.

XI: Time of Adjournment:

6:15

Approved by Chairperson: _____

Date: 1-16-24

Accepted by Committee Liaison: _____

Date: 1-16-24