



**MINUTES
BLOOMINGTON TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2022, 4:00 P.M.
GOVERNMENT CENTER CHAMBERS, 4TH FLOOR, ROOM #400
115 E. WASHINGTON STREET
BLOOMINGTON, ILLINOIS 61701**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mr. Terry Berk, Mr. Joseph Blaney, Mr. John Corey, Ms. Elicsha Sanders

MEMBERS ABSENT: Mr. Edward Breitweiser

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. George Boyle, City Attorney; Mr. Philip Allyn, City Traffic Engineer, Representative from Local Media.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Allyn called the meeting to order at 4:05 pm.

2. ROLL CALL: Mr. Allyn called the roll. With four members in attendance, a quorum was established.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

4. MINUTES: Reviewed and approved the minutes of the April 20, 2021, regular meeting of the Bloomington Transportation Commission Mr. Blaney made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Berk seconded the motion. The Transportation Commission unanimously approved the motion via voice vote.

5. REGULAR AGENDA:

A. Election of Chairperson and Vice-chairperson

Mr. Corey nominated Mr. Breitweiser as Chairperson, seconded by Mr. Berk. Mr. Allyn indicated Mr. Breitweiser confirmed prior to the meeting that he would allow a nomination to stand if one was made. No other members were nominated. The Transportation Commission unanimously elected Mr. Breitweiser as Chairperson 4-0 via roll call vote.

Mr. Corey nominated Ms. Sanders as Vice-chairperson, seconded by Mr. Berk. She indicated she would accept the nomination. No other members were nominated. The Transportation Commission unanimously elected Ms. Sanders as Vice-Chairperson 4-0 via roll call vote.

B. TC-2022-01: Chapter 29 Code updates – Consideration and Action on Recommendation to Council on Proposed Ordinance

Mr. Blaney asked about Item #4, Sec 29-1807, in reference to the change of loading zones at the old Corpus Christi school. Mr. Blaney questioned if loading zones were still needed because there is still a food bank that works out of the old school. Mr. Allyn commented that the loading zones were originally for school buses and the request came from 2020 to remove the signs. We have not heard any comments from the food bank of problems after the signs were removed. Mr. Berk asked a question about Item #6, Chapter 29-1815 and what the timeframe limit is and how that is determined. Mr. Allyn then explained the different sections of the meeting packet: cover page with general information about each code change; the ordinance that will be presented to Council; and markup of the current page from code showing the changes. Mr. Allyn showed where the information was regarding Mr. Berk's question.

Mr. Corey made a motion to recommend the City Council approve the proposed ordinance modifying Chapter 29 of the Bloomington City Code. Mr. Blaney seconded the motion. The Transportation Commission unanimously approved the motion 4-0 via roll call vote.

C. Information: September 2022 Citizen Comments/Complaints Summary (Review & Discussion)

Mr. Allyn explained how the Citizen/Complaint Summary works and how the different comments are organized, such as new comments and what steps have been taken.

Mr. Blaney asked about the status of the request for traffic calming on Auburn Rd (#124). Mr. Allyn explained that it was closed because the warrants for traffic calming were not met. He then explained the criteria for traffic calming warrants: ADT (Average Daily Traffic) of at least 900 but less than 2,000; street cannot be a classified road (such as arterial or collector street); 85th percentile speed more than 5 mph over the posted speed limit, and violation rate of at least 40%. Mr. Allyn also explained the overall traffic calming process of data collection, public meeting, and vote by residents of the street. 70% approval is required for installation of traffic calming speed humps.

Mr. Berk comment that he liked how city staff makes contact with the resident making the comment or complaint but questioned why some of them have been on list for such a long time. Mr. Allyn explained how the list grew during Covid and the previous traffic engineering technician had retired causing a backlog in response and data collection.

Mr. Berk asked that there seems to be themes in most complaints and how we address things. He used the example of residents asking for Children at Play signs. Mr. Allyn explained that for the most part, Children at Play signs are not generally a sign we put up because most neighborhoods have children playing but there is no consistency to when or where children are at.

Mr. Allyn explained how the list of Citizen Comments/Complaints was put together and why. He then asked if the new commission wanted to continue to see the list. Discussion was had about how the list could change but no change was confirmed.

6. OLD BUSINESS: None

7. NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Corey asked about the timing of the signal at Ireland Grove Rd. and Loop Rd. Mr. Allyn explained that since the signal is so close to Veterans Parkway, the timing is coordinated with the longer timing of Veterans Parkway.

Mr. Blaney asked if there are any procedures or practices in place for large trees that overhang streets such as Washington St. This is in reference to the strong recent storms. Mr. Allyn explained it is the City Park and Recreation Department's responsibility to trim trees that might have loose branches hanging over the streets.

Mr. Berk asked if there was a way to update the public about projects the City is working on. There have been letters to the editor in the Pantagraph that imply the City is not doing anything to fix the streets or other areas of concern. Mr. Allyn showed how the City's website has project updates and discussed the challenge of getting information out to all the public. Mr. Allyn discussed several of the City's current major projects.

A discussion was had about upcoming IDOT projects on IL Route 9 and US 51 through the city and possible changes to the intersection of Veterans Parkway and Empire (IL Route 9). Mr. Allyn explained how the state is looking at making the intersection safer and for pedestrian traffic.

8. ADJOURNMENT: Mr. Corey made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Sanders seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously via voice vote, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:57 pm.

Respectfully,

Philip Allyn
City Traffic Engineer