

TRAFFIC COMMISSION MINUTES

MAY 18, 2021

Mike Graft calls to order the regular meeting of the Marion City Traffic Commission for Tuesday May, 18, 2021. He asks the secretary to do the Roll Call:

Roll Call:

Present:

Mike Graft	Chair of Commission
Brian Cowgill	City Council Representative
Tony Fox	Fire Department Representative
Tom R. Hunt	Legal/Mayor's Representative
Sam Ramsey	City Plan Director

Absent:

Sgt. David Gilbert	Marion Police Department Representative
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Non-voting members

Present:

Rhonda Pierson	Traffic Department Representative
Virgil Hartley	Traffic Commission Secretary

NOTE: This may change as there was some discussion last month about putting Rhonda back on the 'voting' member list.

Mike states that the Traffic Signals at S. Lincoln Blvd. & E. 38th will be put back in operation as will the signals at Kem & Wabash Ave. (awaiting new equipment) The 3 head signal faces at Cherry St., Jeffras & Wabash Ave.'s will be modified to single face head (4-Way flashing red) & with Stop Signs. Mike then asked if everyone had a chance to read last month's minutes, everyone had so the minutes were approved. Next on the Agenda is Old Business:

3-Way Stop request at Bole's & Starkey Dr.'s- Speaking Mike Graft: Mike asks if everyone had a chance to look at the intersection with that he gives a rehash of what is going on at the area. He states that this stretch of Starkey is about 6 blocks long (from W. 44th to W. 38th St.'s) and drivers tend to drive a bit fast for that area (streets are a bit narrow with vehicles parked on both sides). Mike continues in saying that he has been out there, there are kids going to the

basketball courts and the possibility of something happening is very much a possibility. So he states that we will need 2 more STOP Signs and 2 ADVANCE WARNING signs.

Mike then asks the Commission to entertain a motion to approve or deny the request- the motion to approve was made by Sam Ramsey, a second was made by Tony Fox, everyone was in favor, there were no objections, and therefore the request for the 3-Way STOP was approved. On to NEW BUSINESS:

3-Way STOP request at N. Butler & W. Jeffras Ave.'s- speaking Ms. Linda Napier, 1533 W. Jeffras Ave.: Ms. Napier states that she feels that the intersection of S. Butler & W. Jeffras is a dangerous intersection as there has been several near hits/misses (as far as the Commission knows there hasn't been an accident recently) and that there are children around the area. Ms. Napier continues that she has taken several vehicular counts at different times also. Her comments are based on Butler Ave. being extended to Braewick Dr. and in her opinion more people are using Butler from Kem Rd. to W. 9th St. to avoid Baldwin Ave. (St. Rd. 9 & 15) is the cause of more traffic in that area. She feels that making this a 3-Way STOP will/would slow drivers down.

Mike comments that in most situations Stop signs are not to be used for speed control and that this is what the Police department is for. Ms. Napier says that she has not called MPD on this matter and was told to call the City Engineering Dept. (this was several weeks ago by Kayla Johnson to Virgil) and then to get on the Traffic Commission agenda. With that Mike addresses the Commission and Ms. Napier that the Commission members take a look at this intersection to get some feedback and to table this until the next month's meet. Mike continues that it's not as simple as putting up a new sign- a new Stop can cause accidents (Rear-end types) so we have to be a little diligent on installing them. He also lets Ms. Napier that she is more than welcomed to attend next month's meeting to hear what the Commission has come up with. Virgil will get in touch with her of the next T.C. meeting (he lets her know that it's usually every 3rd Tuesday of the month @ 2:00 pm).

Mike asks another citizen for her comments on this issue, Ms. Michele Wagner/West Marion Homeowners Watch President adds that there have been a few accidents & she thinks things will get worst if something is not done (that was all). Now Ms. Napier asks if Jeffras Ave. is a Truck Route- Mike responds that truckers are allowed to use any City streets for local deliveries and that this needs to be addressed by MPD, but to answer her questions Jeffras is not a City Truck Route and again needs to be addressed to the Marion Police Dept. Mike assures Ms. Napier & Ms. Wagner that the Commission will look at this and have something on this at the next scheduled meeting.

On to Item 6- Public Address- since there wasn't anyone in the audience, everything has been discussed this was passed. Mike asks the Commission to entertain a motion for adjournment- Tom Hunt makes the Motion- Rhonda seconds- all were in favor no objections- Motion passes meeting is adjourned.

NOTE: There was some discussions about the Motorcycle club that was not pertinent to this meeting and was not documented here.