Safety Commission
MEETING MINUTES

November 13, 2024 - 6:00 PM
Conference Room A/B
3805 S. Casper Drive

Please note: Minutes are unofficial until approved at the next scheduled meeting.

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mary English called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

2. ROLL CALL; DECLARATION OF QUORUM; PUBLIC NOTICE

Present: Mary English, Chuck Garrigues, Charlotte Kroupa (Alderwoman), Mitchell Lataille, Lucas Pichler (DPW), Dave Rocklewitz (NBPD), Tammy Simonson (Engineering), Anne-Marie St. John
Excused: Commissioner Caleb Manske (Chair), Justin Schulpius (NBFD), Mathew Newman (NBSD)

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. October 9th, 2024 Meeting Minutes

MOTION: Motion to Approve

VOTE: Motion by: Chuck Garrigues
Second by: Charlotte Kroupa
Motion Passed 8-0

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. **24-16:** Multiple residents have requested consideration for the installation of stop signs or yield signs at the intersection of Pleasant Hill Drive and Greenhill Road, due to the dangerousness of the intersection.

Lucas Pichler provided a synopsis of the complaint, which he advised was referred to him by the Waukesha County Safety Commission, particularly because the intersection of Pleasant Hill Drive and Greenhill Road consisted of roadways in the City of New Berlin and the Town of Brookfield.

Tammy Simonson displayed an overview map of the area for the commission to view. Pichler advised that even without conducting a traffic study, he did not believe there would be enough traffic volume at the intersection of Pleasant Hill Drive and Greenhill Road to warrant stop signs or yield signs. Tammy Simonson also advised that she also had the same belief as Pichler. Pichler also added that there was a large tree on the southwest corner of the intersection, which the Streets Department had already cut back for better visibility. Simonson noted that there were no known crashes at the intersection. Simonson also

added that by adding a stop sign, there would be a high likelihood for stop sign violations, which could make the intersection more dangerous. Mary English advised that she drove through the area of the intersection and felt that stops signs or yield signs could possibly be warranted. Mitchell Lataille inquired if it would be typical for a traffic study to be conducted for the purpose of gathering actual data before making a decision. Simonson advised a traffic study could be conducted; however, it would have to be conducted in the Spring (2025).

MOTION: Motion to have the Engineering Department conduct a speed study in the Spring

VOTE: Motion by: Mitchell Lataille
Second by: Charlotte Kroupa
Motion Passed 8-0

B. **24-17:** A resident has requested no parking signs be installed on Hillendale Drive (north of College Avenue) and on Racine Place (north of College Avenue), due to parked vehicles blocking other drivers' views and making the intersections unsafe.

Dave Rocklewitz provided a general synopsis of the complaint, which had been received via email. Rocklewitz noted the complaint indicated vehicles were reportedly parking on Hillendale Drive and on Racine Place, and the vehicle owners were believed to be employees of The Local bar and grill, in Muskego. Rocklewitz also added that the complaint indicated that because of the parked vehicles, there were multiple alleged recent crashes and the intersections were unsafe.

Tammy Simonson displayed an overview map of the area for the commission to view. Simonson also checked for intersection-related crashes in the area, from New Berlin, and found that there had been four crashes during the previous 20 years (through August 2024), in New Berlin. Lucas Pichler advised that he was familiar with the parking volume that was created by The Local; however, he believed that vehicles parked on College Avenue potentially created more of a safety concern. Pichler also added that he was not opposed to the idea of adding "No Parking" signs on Hillendale Drive and/or Racine Place from a designated location to the corner of the intersection(s) to potentially increase visibility. Chuck Garrigues questioned the need for adding "No Parking" signs to correct the issue if College Avenue was the main problem.

Motion to take the following actions:

1. Refer the concern to the Waukesha County Safety Commission for consideration of "No Parking" signs on College Avenue, near the intersections of Hillendale Drive and/or Racine Place

2. Table the item for further consideration, pending the decision of the Waukesha County Safety Commission

MOTION: Motion to Approve

VOTE: Motion by: Charlotte Kroupa
Second by: Mitchell Lataille
Motion Passed 8-0

C. **24-18:** A resident has requested consider for the installation of speed humps on Horizon Drive, due to speeding vehicles.

Tammy Simonson displayed an overview map of the area for the commission to view. Mary English noted that Horizon Drive was a short road, with a dead end. Chuck Garrigues noted that it seemed that people were frequently requesting speed humps; however, he did not believe that speed humps should be considered as the primary solution to every speeding concern. English suggested moving the current speed limit sign location farther west from Calhoun Road to provide drivers with more opportunity to see the speed limit sign. Lucas Pichler evaluated the current speed limit sign location and noted that it appeared to be placed in a location that was consistent with engineering standards. Pichler also added that due to the retaining wall to the west of the speed limit sign's current location, the speed limit sign could not be moved farther west. Charlotte Kroupa inquired about the possibly of increasing the size of the current speed limit sign. Pichler advised that increasing the size of the speed limit sign could be a possibility; however, he would be concerned about doing so without an identified reason or appropriate data. Tammy Simonson

advised that the Engineering Department could conduct a traffic study; however, again noted that it would have to be conducted in the Spring (2025). Dave Rocklewitz asked if the Police Department could utilize a Speed Sentry sign to collect data in lieu of the Engineering Department's traffic study. Simonson confirmed that the data collected by a Speed Sentry sign could be used for evaluation purposes.

MOTION: Motion to have the Police Department conduct a speed study utilizing a Speed Sentry sign

VOTE: Motion by: Mary English
Second by: Chuck Garrigues
Motion Passed 8-0

D. **24-19:** A resident has requested the installation of a "Hidden Driveway" sign near the area of 3300 S. Wehr Road.

Dave Rocklewitz provided a general synopsis of the complaint, as he had spoken to the complainant. Rocklewitz also added that it appeared that the complainant's driveway was hidden specifically because of the trees on his property.

Tammy Simonson displayed an overview map of the area for the commission to view. Tammy Simoson commented that the complainant's driveway was not the only driveway that could be considered hidden and that she was not sure if a "Hidden Driveway" sign would have an impact on drivers. Lucas Pichler added that a "Hidden Driveway" sign was not a standard sign, and that a "Hill Blocks View" sign would be more of a standard sign; however, he did not believe that the hill blocked the view of the complaint's driveway. Charlotte Kroupa asked if there were any identifiable vision issues created by trees in the City's right-of-way and, if so, could the trees be trimmed to reduce vison issues. Lucas Pichler advised that the Streets Department did not have clearly established policies on removing vegetation in the City's right-of-way; therefore, it was unclear if the Streets Department would be able to trim trees merely because they were in the right-of-way. Pichler also added that the Streets Department's plow drivers had recently checked all City roadways to identify specific obstructions for plow drivers and Wehr Road did not have any identified obstructions. Pichler further advised that it was his belief that if the trees on the complainant's property were creating vision issues, the complainant could consider making arrangements to trim the trees. Mary English and Kroupa agreed with Pichler.

MOTION: Motion to take no action

VOTE: Motion by: Charlotte Kroupa
Second by: Mitchell Lataille
Motion Passed 8-0

5. OLD BUSINESS

A. None

6. TABLED ITEMS

A. **23-18:** A resident has expressed concerns about speeding vehicles on Church Drive. The resident has requested consideration for the installation of speed humps. **(Tabled for traffic study)**

MOTION: Motion to Take item from table

VOTE: Motion by: Charlotte Kroupa
Second by: Mitchell Lataille
Motion Passed 8-0

Charlotte Kroupa provided an update on Item 23-18, which had been tabled for information gathering. Kroupa indicated that she had reached out to residents from 29 addresses and requested a

mailed response with the resident indicating, “Yes,” they were in favor of speed humps being installed on Church Drive, or, “No,” they were not in favor or speed humps being installed on Church Drive. Kroupa advised she received 18 returned responses, with 14 indicating “Yes” and 4 indicating “No.” Kroupa also advised that it was also noted that if a resident chose to not respond, the answer would default to “No;” therefore, there were an additional 11 “No” totals. Kroupa indicated that in the end, the “Yes” totals equaled 14 (48.3%, and the “No” totals equaled 15 (51.7%); therefore, the “Yes” totals were not the majority.

MOTION: Motion to take no action on the request for speed humps, based on the data collected

VOTE: Motion by: Charlotte Kroupa
Second by: Mary English
Motion Passed 8-0

B. **24-15:** A resident has expressed concerns about speeding vehicles in the 13800 block of Wilbur Drive. The resident has requested a stop sign at the intersection of Wilbur Drive and Wilbur Court and/or additional speed limit signs and children at play signs. **(Tabled for traffic study)**

MOTION: Motion to take item from table

VOTE: Motion by: Tammy Simonson
Second by: Lucas Pichler
Motion Passed 8-0

Tammy Simonson presented the data from the traffic study, which was collected in late October/early November 2024. According to the speed study data collected in the 13300 block of Wilbur Drive, which was collected between 10/28/24 – 11/06/24, the average vehicle speed was 26 mph, and the enforcement rating was “Low” (two percent enforceable violations). According to the speed study data collected in the 13800 block of Wilbur Drive, which was collected between 10/28/24 – 11/06/24, the average vehicle speed was 24 mph, and the enforcement rating was “Low” (two percent enforceable violations). Dave Rocklewitz also added that the Police Department had monitored Wilbur Drive, between Pleasant View Drive and Brentwood Drive, from 09/15/24 – 10/25/24, for approximately 14 total hours, with no traffic stops and noted speeds that were no higher than 32 mph.

MOTION: Motion to take no action, based on the data from the traffic study

VOTE: Motion by: Chuck Garrigues
Second by: Charlotte Kroupa
Motion Passed 8-0

7. SET MEETING DATE

A. Wednesday, December 11th, 2024

No action is required by the Commission at this time, so the December meeting was cancelled. The next meeting date is Wednesday, January 8, 2025.

8. ADJOURN

MOTION: Motion to Adjourn at 7:45 PM

VOTE: Motion by: Charlotte Kroupa
Second by: Mitchell Lataille
Motion Passed 8-0