

TRAFFIC COMMISSION  
MINUTES  
612 North Main  
Mitchell SD 57301  
August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Chairman Lyndon Overweg called the meeting of the Traffic Commission for the City of Mitchell to order at 6:41pm on Monday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016 in the Mitchell City Council Chambers.

**PRESENT**

Chairman Lyndon Overweg	Councilperson Jeff Smith	Councilperson Dan Allen
Councilperson Dave Tronnes	Councilperson Steve Rice	Ex-officio Dick Figland
Assistant Chief Koster		

**AGENDA**

Chairman Overweg requested approval of the **Agenda** for this meeting August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2016. Councilperson Allen made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilperson Smith seconded the motion with all members voting aye.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Request to remove the “10 Minute” parking in the 500 blk of North Main.**

Chief Overweg informed the group that Craig Fergen with NorthWestern had spoken to him and indicated that they would like to keep the “10 Minute Parking” spaces. Chief Overweg also mentioned that the “15 Minute Parking” has been removed on the 500 blk of North Main. Councilperson Tjarks commented that she felt that the “10 Minute” parking shows preferential treatment for that business and there is parking just to the south in the 5<sup>th</sup> & Main parking lot. Councilperson Rice commented that NorthWestern is the only utility business on Main Street and that people go in and out when dropping off payments. It was asked if there had been complaints on the “10 Minute” parking spaces and Chief Overweg informed them there has not been any complaints. There was also discussion on the option of leaving one “10 Minute” parking space.

Councilperson Smith made a motion to remove the north “10 Minute” parking space in the 500 blk of North Main. Councilperson Tronnes seconded the motion with all members voting aye.

**2. The Pastor Carroll Torberson of Grace Baptist Church, located at 600 S Edmunds St., requests that the first parking spot west of the sidewalk leading up to Grace Baptist Church in the 400 blk. West Douglas be signed as handicapped parking.**

Councilperson Rice made a motion to approve the request. Councilperson Allen seconded the motion with all members voting aye.

**3. Request for a yield sign at Douglas and Wisconsin for north and south traffic.**

A resident had requested the yield sign due to children in the area and increased traffic from Marco's Pizza opening in the area. Chief Overweg informed the group that installing a "Yield" sign would establish right away. Brian Patrick addressed the group and stated that he drives this area often and has seen many near misses because people do not know the right away. Chief Overweg also informed the group that a traffic study was not done at this intersection. There was discussion in regards to criteria for stop and yield signs.

Councilperson Rice made a motion to approve the request. Councilperson Smith seconded the motion. Roll Call: Smith – aye, Tronnes – no, Allen – no and Rice – no. Motion failed.

**4. Remove First United Methodist Church, located in the 300blk of North Rowley Street, requests to move one of the three handicapped parking locations from the 300 blk. N. Rowley to the 100 blk. W. 3<sup>rd</sup> to be located on the 1<sup>st</sup> parking location west of the existing handicap spot on W. 3<sup>rd</sup> and to create a Sunday only bus parking to be located in the 300 blk. N. Rowley just north of the loading unloading zone.**

Councilperson Tronnes asked if other churches have this and there was a discussion in regards to this being a unique situation as most other churches have parking lots. Chris Moller represented the Board of Trustee's for 1<sup>st</sup> United Methodist Church and informed the group that with construction going on they would like to look at a change in the parking layout. This layout would have two "Handicap" spaces on Rowley and two on 3<sup>rd</sup>. By moving one of the "Handicap" spaces this would allow a space to be used to drop people off in front of the church on the 300 blk of North Rowley. Chris also stated that they would like to extend the "Loading & Unloading" for an additional space for "Bus Parking Only" on Sunday, which would allow the bus to pull forward and park.

Councilperson Tronnes made a motion to approve the request. Councilperson Allen seconded the motion with all members voting aye.

## **DISCUSSION**

**1. 1<sup>st</sup> & Foster Intersection.**

Councilperson Robinson informed the group that Mike Hale with Dependable Recycling had spoken to her in regards to the 1<sup>st</sup> & Foster intersection and that he has seen many near misses and would like to have the signage reconsidered for a four-way stop. Chief Overweg informed the group that this intersection was last looked at in 2013 and did not meet the criteria for a four-way stop. The study did show that the signs met criteria to switch the stop signs locations; however, it was decided not to change the signage. It was asked how long the study was done for and Chief Overweg informed them that the study would have been done over a 24-hour period. City Administrator, Stephanie Ellwein, commented that she drives on 1<sup>st</sup> often and has seen people almost get hit four to five times a week. There was also discussion that driver's coming in to Mitchell from the east on 1<sup>st</sup> do not slow down to the 25 mph speed limit. Councilperson Smith commented that many physician's offices have been moved to the Avera Grassland Complex so traffic could be down since the 2013 study. Councilperson Tjarks commented that based

on the number of people that have brought this request to be looked at for a four-way stop because of constant near misses that maybe it should go to a four-stop sign. Councilperson Tjarks commented that she doesn't see a difference in this intersection and the three-way stop that was placed at 3<sup>rd</sup> & Lawler. Councilperson Robinson commented that she did not have a problem with going to a four-way stop. Stephanie Ellwein asked why the stop signs were not switched in 2013 when the study showed they should be. It was mentioned that it wasn't changed as historically it was Hwy 16 and there would be confusion with the stop signs switched. It was also mentioned that Arnie's 1<sup>st</sup> & Foster's entrances/exits are also near this intersection which can also add to the confusion.

Chief Overweg stated that he would get the 2013 Traffic Study to the Traffic Commission members and they could look the study over. If anyone wants to have this intersection added to the next traffic commission agenda, they should notify him.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Councilperson Allen made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:05pm. Councilperson Smith seconded the motion with all members voting aye.

The next Traffic Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The time will be announced at a later date.

Minutes prepared by Cindy Titze.