A regular meeting of the Troy Traffic Committee was held Wednesday, July 16, 2014 in the Lower Level Conference Room at Troy City Hall. Pete Ziegenfelder called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call

PRESENT: Tim Brandstetter
Ted Halsey
Richard Kilmer
Al Petrulis
Pete Ziegenfelder

ABSENT: Sarah Binkowski
Stevan Popovic

Also present: Ken Crum, 1642 Rockfield
Ed Mancini, 5990 Adams
Sandra Adams, 5970 Sussex
Lt. Eric Caloia, Fire Department
Sgt. Mike Szuminski, Police Department
Bill Huotari, Deputy City Engineer/Traffic Engineer

2. Minutes – June 18, 2014

RESOLUTION # 2014-07-19

Moved by Kilmer
Seconded by Halsey

To approve the June 18, 2014 minutes as printed.

YES: 5 (Brandstetter, Halsey, Kilmer, Petrulis, Ziegenfelder)
NO: None
ABSENT: 2 (Binkowski, Popovic)

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – Sidwell #88-20-07-101-001 – 5990 Adams Road

Edward Mancini requests a sidewalk waiver for the sidewalk at 5990 Adams Road (Sidwell #88-20-20-427-038), along Sussex only, as part of the Oakland Troy Senior Facility proposed at the corner of Adams and Square Lake Road. Petitioner states that eliminating the sidewalk along Sussex would preserve existing trees for screening the proposed development from existing residential homes along Sussex. Sussex is a gravel

road with no sidewalks. Sidewalk would still be required along Adams, Square Lake and Arlund Way.

Mr. Mancini was in attendance at the meeting and provided pictures of the area as well as plans for the Oakland Troy Senior Facility. Mr. Mancini stated that there are no sidewalks on Sussex and the border of the property along Sussex has numerous mature trees that can be saved if the sidewalk is waived. The landscape plan for the development proposed leaving the trees in place and adding a berm area with evergreen trees and shrubs along the top of it behind the existing trees.

Mr. Halsey asked about sidewalk widths around the parcel in the areas where it will be placed [eight foot wide along Adams and Square Lake and five foot wide along Arlund Way].

Mr. Kilmer asked if the additional landscaping on the site will compliment the trees. Mr. Mancini responded that the landscaping did take existing trees into account.

RESOLUTION # 2014-07-20

Moved by Halsey
Seconded by Kilmer

WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, allows the Traffic Committee to grant waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

WHEREAS, Edward Mancini has requested a waiver of the requirement to construct sidewalk to preserve existing trees for screening the proposed Oakland Troy Senior Facility from existing residential homes along Sussex; and

WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined the following:

a. A waiver will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and

b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and

c. The construction of a new sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Traffic Committee grants a waiver of the sidewalk requirement for 5990 Adams Road (Sidwell #88-20-20-427-038), along Sussex only, as part of the Oakland Troy Senior Facility proposed at the corner of Adams and Square Lake Road.

YES: 5 (Brandstetter, Halsey, Kilmer, Petrulis, Ziegenfelder)
NO: None
ABSENT: 2 (Binkowski, Popovic)

MOTION CARRIED

4. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – Sidwell #88-20-14-401-034 – 1643 Rockfield

Ken Crum requests a sidewalk waiver for the sidewalk at Lot 16 of the Square Acres Subdivision (Sidwell #88-20-14-401-034) 1643 Rockfield. Petitioner states that there are no other sidewalks in the neighborhood to connect to; open ditches where sidewalk goes; and that it is out of character for the neighborhood.

Mr. Crum was in attendance at the meeting at stated that there are no other sidewalks in the neighborhood other than at the extreme east end that was installed as part of the Rockdale Court development. Mr. Crum said that most neighbors support granting a waiver. He would like to maintain the look and feel of the neighborhood.

Mr. Halsey asked whether the property has been split and if Mr. Crum has plans for the other lot. Mr. Crum responded that the property has been split but he has no current plans for building on it.

Mr. Ziegenfelder stated that he is in favor of sidewalks at all locations in the City.

Mr. Kilmer asked about development potential in this area. [parcels are developed at this time so it would take assembling parcels in order to create a viable development similar to Rockdale Court].

Traffic Engineering received four (4) emails regarding this request. Two (2) were in favor of the waiver and two (2) were opposed to the waiver. Copies of resident emails were provided to the members when this item was discussed.

RESOLUTION # 2014-07-21

Moved by Halsey
Seconded by Kilmer

WHEREAS, City of Troy Ordinances, Chapter 34, allows the Traffic Committee to grant waivers of the City of Troy Design Standards for Sidewalks upon a demonstration of necessity; and

WHEREAS, Ken Crum has requested a waiver of the requirement to construct sidewalk due to the fact that there are no other sidewalks in the neighborhood to connect to; open ditches where sidewalk goes; and that it is out of character for the neighborhood.; and

WHEREAS, the Traffic Committee has determined the following:

a. A waiver will not impair the public health, safety or general welfare of the inhabitants of the City and will not unreasonably diminish or impair established property values within the surrounding area, and

b. A strict application of the requirements to construct a sidewalk would result in practical difficulties to, or undue hardship upon, the owners, and

c. The construction of a new sidewalk would lead nowhere and connect to no other walk, and thus will not serve the purpose of a pedestrian travel-way.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Traffic Committee grants a waiver of the sidewalk requirement for Lot 16 of the Square Acres Subdivision (Sidwell #88-20-14-401-034) 1643 Rockfield.

YES: 4 (Brandstetter, Halsey, Kilmer, Petrulis)
NO: 1 (Ziegenfelder)
ABSENT: 2 (Binkowski, Popovic)

MOTION CARRIED

REGULAR BUSINESS

5. Request for No Parking Zone – Burdic, Edith to Ravenna

Christine Fricke of 2145 Burdic requests that a No Parking zone be established on the south side of Burdic, between Edith and Ravenna. Ms. Fricke reports that landscape contractors park on the south side of the road up to three (3) times per week (two separate companies) and block mailboxes and also park at locations making backing out of her driveway very difficult.

No members of the public were in attendance at the meeting to discuss this item. No additional calls or emails were received by Traffic Engineering relative to this request.

Mr. Ziegenfelder stated that he is in favor of No Parking signs on the fire hydrant side of all streets.

Lt. Caloia stated that the roads are narrow and if vehicles park along both sides of the street it is very difficult for emergency vehicles to drive down the road.

Sgt. Szuminski discussed the procedure for special event requests in areas with No Parking zones established.

General discussion regarding No Parking zones and signs ensued.

RESOLUTION # 2014-07-22

Moved by Brandstetter
Seconded by Petrulis

RESOLVED, that a No Parking zone be established on the south side of Burdic, between Edith and Ravenna.

YES: 5 (Brandstetter, Halsey, Kilmer, Petrulis, Ziegenfelder)
NO: None
ABSENT: 2 (Binkowski, Popovic)

MOTION CARRIED

6. Request for Traffic Control – Duchess at Grenadier

Ms. Sharon Koerber of 6912 Duchess Court requests that traffic control be placed at the intersection of Duchess and Grenadier. Ms. Koerber states that the lack of traffic control at the intersection creates a hazardous situation.

No members of the public were in attendance at the meeting to discuss this item. No additional calls or emails were received by Traffic Engineering relative to this request.

Sgt. Szuminski supports a Stop sign on the Grenadier approach to Duchess Court.

Mr. Brandstetter discussed the merits of an All-Way stop at the intersection due to existing grades and layout of the intersection.

Mr. Petrulis supports a Stop sign on the Grenadier approach to Duchess Court.

Mr. Halsey stated that the Stop sign could be installed on Grenadier and then the intersection reviewed at a later date if needed.

Mr. Ziegenfelder prefers Stop signs at intersections. Mr. Ziegenfelder would support an All-Way Stop at this location.

RESOLUTION # 2014-07-23

Moved by Petrulis
Seconded by Halsey

RESOLVED, that the intersection of Grenadier at Duchess Court be modified from No traffic control to a STOP sign on the Grenadier approach to Duchess Court.

YES: 3 (Halsey, Kilmer, Petrulis)
NO: 2 (Brandstetter, Ziegenfelder)
ABSENT: 2 (Binkowski, Popovic)

MOTION CARRIED

7. Public Comment

No members of the public provided comment.

8. Other Business

No other business was brought forward by the Committee.

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Pete Ziegenfelder, Chairperson

Bill Huotari, Deputy City Engineer/Traffic Engineer

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