

La Porte City Traffic Commission

The August meeting of the La Porte City Traffic Commission was held at the La Porte City Police Station Conference Room on August 1, 2023. The following members were present:

Karyl Feikes – Chairperson
Paul Brettin
Paul Vincent

Andy Snyder – Secretary
Rip Ludlow

Mike Frazee
Sarah Ford

The following items summarize the meeting:

1. The minutes of the July 11, 2023 meeting were approved. Motion by Paul Brettin and seconded by Mike Frazee.
2. **Public Comment** – Frank Cardello attended meeting to request the commission support the vacating of 3 small properties adjacent to 239 Factory St. He indicated these properties were assumed to have been vacated many years ago, but apparently never recorded properly with County. They have recently attempted to sell the property and the oversight was realized at this time. Karyl and Andy reported that Nick Otis had sent an email confirming this mistake and asked that the commission look favorably upon the request so it could get remedied as soon as possible. A motion to support the vacation of the Worden Street from the East right-of-way line of Darrow Street to the West right-of-way line of Cook Avenue; & 12-foot alley along the Northline of said LaPorte Land Company Addition of Outlots; from the East right-of-way line of Darrow Street to the West right of way line of Cook Avenue; & 12-foot alley between Worden and Darlington Streets from the East right-of-way line of Darrow Street to the West right-of-way line of Cook Avenue; was made by Paul Vincent and seconded by Sarah Ford. The motion passed unanimously.
3. Mike Frazee reported that signage to facilitate the Slicer Pathway Project had been received and he is working with David Heinold for the installation.
4. The Commission discussed installation of the temporary speed bumps on Woodlawn Avenue. It was reported that the addition of the speed bumps has been well received by the residents and seems to be achieving the intended goal of slowing traffic.
5. It was reported the request to place a stop sign on C St. at its intersection with 8th had been approved by the City Council.
6. There was further discussion regarding Mia Tusky's (711 Lakeside St.) request for the vacating of a section of property owned by the City behind her residence. Andy Snyder reported that he had spoken with Nick Minich regarding this request. Nick indicated that this property could ultimately be developed at some point in the future and thought granting this request might be short sighted. This strip of property also intersects with another piece of undeveloped property, owned by the City, that could grant others access to the lake. Paul Brettin made a motion to rescind the Commission's previous support for vacating this property. It was seconded by Mike Frazee and passed unanimously. Andy will contact Ms. Tusky to inform her of the Commission's decision.
7. The Commission will continue to monitor the parking situation and the dangers of pedestrians crossing the roadway in the area of The Dunes Event Center on Clear

- Lake Blvd. The Clear Lake Loop project should accommodate pedestrian traffic better. This project is expected to begin soon.
8. Mike reported that the signs have been installed to change the 2-way stop at the intersection of Newporte Blvd and N. Madison to a 3-way stop.
 9. Andy Snyder forwarded a request from Brett Binversie, the Civic Auditorium director, to assist with solutions to parking issues on Tecumseh St. during Civic events. The roadway can become very congested and dangerous for residents. The Commission decided to visit the area and discuss it further at the September meeting.
 10. Andy Snyder reported Dave Ambers, of Lakeshore Dr. had contacted him about vacating a piece of property between his residence and his neighbor. He will attend an upcoming commission meeting to discuss this further.
 11. A request was presented to the commission from Sacred Heart Church for a crosswalk on Niessen St. to align with their north entrance for Food Pantry access. Many commission members had visited this area prior to the meeting and felt this would not be advisable. It was reported that the requested crosswalk is already close to an existing intersection. Another issue with installing a crosswalk at this location would be the requirement and cost to cut the curb and install ADA compliant ramps. However, the commission felt it may be helpful to better delineate the current intersection markings with new paint and signage at Bach St, Pulaski St. & Niessen St. A motion was made by Rip Ludlow to accommodate this action. It was seconded by Sarah Ford and passed unanimously.
 12. Karyl Feikes reported that Tim Franke had approached her to request the commission review the area of Crescent St. and Kingsbury Ave. regarding pedestrian safety. She indicated Tim was going to provide more information but hadn't as yet. Karyl will follow up with Mr. Franke and forward the information to the commission members. In the meantime, it was decided to visit this area and discuss it further at the September meeting.
 13. Mark Schrieber forwarded a request to the commission to consider some type of restricted parking on Truesdell Ave. from Mc Clung Rd to Hoelocker Dr. The commission felt the new configuration of the roadway made it unlikely that vehicles will park along the edge of the road due to the narrowness of each lane. However, they did feel it would be advisable to place large "Parking in Designated Areas Only" signs at the entrance to the park. Paul Brettin made a motion to have the street department order and install the signage. Mike Frazee seconded it and it passed unanimously.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Rip Ludlow and seconded by Paul Brettin.

The next Traffic Commission will be held on Tuesday, September 5, 2023, at 5:00 PM in the conference room of the City Police Station.

Respectfully submitted,
Andy Snyder, Secretary