

**CITY OF PEKIN TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**AUGUST 3, 2012 @ 8:30 a.m.**  
**CITY HALL CONFERENCE ROOM**

PRESENT: Greg Nelson, Joe Wuellner, Kurt Nelson, Tim Gillespie, Bob Shaw, Mike Guerra, Will Taylor. Also present: Bill Scarcliff, Sharon Harris and Lee Ann Wrhel.

**Old Business:**

1. *Capitol St. & 4<sup>th</sup> St. – Two-way Streets*

This project came about from a request by Pekin Public Library to make a portion of S. 4<sup>th</sup> Street two-way in conjunction with their expansion plans. This prompted research which included recommendations from prior surveys done by the city. Letters of explanation and survey instructions were mailed to all residents on these two streets. Greg reported the highlights of the survey results. Two thirds of respondents completed the online survey and two thirds of all respondents favor changing the one-way streets to two-way. Of the respondents who are residents of the streets involved, they are split 50/50 and those who are for it chose the opposite side of the street from where they live as the side to restrict parking. Those who are against making the streets two-way stated the parking restriction aspect as the main reason they are against it.

Buster Hanley, representing Preston-Hanley Funeral Home and Grace United Methodist Church, stated that he feels the change would make it easier for people to get around town and easier to give people from out of town directions. The only negative he sees in it is the loss of some parking. From his perspective he asked the committee to consider restricting the parking on 4<sup>th</sup> Street on the west side instead of the east side.

A public hearing will be held on August 7<sup>th</sup> seeking further input on this matter. All residents of both streets have been notified of the public hearing. After the hearing the committee will make a recommendation to City Council.

Joe made a motion to defer a decision regarding a recommendation to City Council until after receiving input from citizens at the public hearing. Tim seconded the motion. All in favor.

2. *South 5<sup>th</sup> St. – Parking Restriction*

A survey letter was mailed to all residents of the 1300-1500 blocks of S. Fifth Street seeking their input for a parking restriction in this area. This was prompted by complaints about congestion caused by parked vehicles on the street. The majority of the residents in this location are in favor of a parking restriction; however, most would like the restriction to be on the opposite side of the street from where they live. After discussion of this matter, Tim made a motion to make a recommendation to City Council for

a parking restriction on the west side of S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street from Derby Street to Koch Street, except for a designated loading zone from Derby Street to the alley behind the business located there. Will seconded the motion. All in favor.

3. *Traffic Speed 800-1000 Blocks of Hamilton St.*

Ron Mayeur (309-678-7045, [ronmayeur@yahoo.com](mailto:ronmayeur@yahoo.com)) made this request and was in attendance at the meeting. The speed spy was placed in this area for 3 days and the results were reviewed (very low traffic counts with 86% of the vehicles under 30 mph). The area was also monitored by the police department, with no violations during that time.

Mr. Mayeur asked for consideration of either speed bumps or stop signs at both the intersections of Hamilton at 9<sup>th</sup> Street and 10<sup>th</sup> Street. He stated that the busiest times are when people are going to work in the morning and when they are coming home in the afternoon.

This is an enforcement issue and extra patrol will be requested. Will made a motion to leave the area as is. Joe seconded the motion. All in favor.

## **New Business:**

1. *Special Meeting – Public Hearing Capitol/Fourth*

Prior to making a recommendation to City Council regarding a proposal to go from one-way to two-way streets on Capitol and Fourth, there will be a special meeting of the Traffic Safety Committee on Tuesday, August 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the Pekin Public Library. This meeting will be a public hearing seeking input from citizens on this proposed change. The committee will make a recommendation to City Council after receiving this additional input. All residents of Capitol Street and Fourth Street have received a copy of the special meeting notice in the mail.

The committee received a letter from Bob Burress, 713 Deerfield Drive, 309-241-7293. Agenda items 2 through 4 address his concerns in the letter.

2. *Guard Rail – 14<sup>th</sup> St. at Lake Remington*

The citizen request is for installation of a guard rail along the east side of S. 14<sup>th</sup> Street in the area of Lake Remington. This item has been addressed in the past. This area has a speed limit below 45 mph and a barrier curb is in place. Mike will check into the criteria and standards that are in place for the placement of barriers.

3. *Parking Space – 1300 Block of Park Ave.*

The citizen request is to eliminate one parking space next to the crosswalk. This item has been addressed extensively over the past few years. At this time there is a designated crosswalk and a reduced speed limit (20 mph) in place in this location as well as a 15-minute designated loading/unloading parking space to the east side of the crosswalk. After

discussion, Kurt made a motion to leave this area as is at this time. Bob seconded the motion. All in favor.

4. *Traffic Control – South 5<sup>th</sup> St. – Koch St. to Petri Ln.*

The citizen request is for a no passing zone on South 5<sup>th</sup> Street in this area. After discussion of this request, Bob made a motion to make a recommendation to City Council for a no passing zone for both north and south bound traffic on S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street from Koch Street to the southern boundary of St. Joseph Catholic Cemetery. Tim seconded the motion. All in favor.

5. *Stop Sign Request – 13<sup>th</sup> St. at Lincoln St/Jefferson St.*

The committee received a request from Kristie Bigliuzzi asking for consideration of installation of stop signs at N. 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Lincoln Street and at N. 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Jefferson Street. It was noted by the committee that yield signs are already in place in those locations. Mike made a motion to leave the area as is. Will seconded the motion. All in favor.

6. *“No Right Turn on Red” Sign – 8<sup>th</sup> St. at Sheridan*

The committee received a request through “SeeClickFix” asking why this sign is posted in this location. The committee discussed this and Tim made a motion to make a recommendation to City Council to have the sign taken down. Will seconded the motion. All in favor.

7. *Grace United Methodist Church – Request for Diagonal Parking*

Buster Hanley attended the meeting representing the church. The committee has received a site plan for the expansion at the church and the plan for the request for the diagonal parking spaces. He explained the expansion. The main entrance will be on the south side with a canopy entrance on the north side. The proposed diagonal parking would provide additional parking spaces if some parking is lost on N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street due to a possible parking restriction being put in place. It is a side street and the sidewalk is already set back. Joe made a motion to make a recommendation to City Council to allow the diagonal parking in this location as per the diagram. Mike seconded the motion. All in favor.

### Around the Table

Will reported that there is a tree limb covering the stop sign at the 9<sup>th</sup>/Prince Streets intersection.

Mike distributed a diagram illustrating a proposed multi-use path network. The idea is to make it a network that would eventually have the potential to connect to neighboring communities. This diagram is not final form. He is looking for input. It is something to have in place for future strategic planning and funding purposes. Having such a plan in place makes grant funding more likely. This will be put back on the next agenda for further discussion.

Mike presented a request from the city website asking for a sign at the entrance of the alley behind Sapp Street to keep people from parking in the alley across their driveway and blocking their vehicles in. At this time, this is an enforcement issue. Mike will contact the citizen and inform them to call in every time it happens for enforcement. The ordinance regarding blocked driveways will be reviewed and this will be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lee Ann Wrhel

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 7, 2012 @ 8:30 A.M.**