

NEW BERLIN SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday, August 13th, 2008 6:00 pm

New Berlin Public Safety Building

16300 W. National Ave.

Please note: Minutes are unofficial until approved by the Safety Commission at the next regularly scheduled meeting.

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Safety Commission Chairman Paul Rozek at 6:06 pm.

Present: Paul Rozek, Paul Repischak, Ron Schildt, Joe Poshepny, Fred Witty, Earl Strandt, and Dan Meister.

Excused: Dr. Paul Kreutzer, Scott Gillard, and Lynn Dahlvik

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Ron Schildt to except the May 14th, 2008 minutes as read. Seconded by Fred Witty and carried unanimously.

New Business:

01 08 07 A citizen reports a hazardous situation near the intersection of 147th St. and National Ave. involving the exit/ entrance to the parking lot for Casey Chiropractic (14700 W. National Ave) and Ride Extreme Sports (14668 W. National Ave). The south exit/ entrance onto 147th St. from the parking lot is very close to 147th Street's intersection with National Ave. The citizen reports that patrons of these businesses often pull out onto 147th St. and fail to yield right of way to vehicles turning from National Ave. onto 147th St. The citizen suggested closing the south exit/ entrance.

Ron Schildt advised the Safety Commission the south exit/ entrance onto 147th St. for the businesses does not meet current zoning code. Current code requires the exit/ entrance onto 147th St. be 100 ft from the intersection of 147th and National Ave. The businesses in question are grandfathered under old zoning code. Unless there is a "proven safety hazard" involving the exit/ entrance, the business cannot be required to make any changes to the exit/ entrance. Ron Schildt advised that accident data shows no accidents in the area in the past seven years. Lt. Repischak had officers monitor the exit/ entrance on eight different occasions (during higher traffic volume periods) in the weeks leading up to the August Safety Commission meeting. The officers working the assignment reported no incidents of vehicles failing to yield right of way.

The Safety Commission was in agreement that no "proven safety hazard" existed. They did not feel closing the south driveway was necessary. Dan

Meister suggested having the property owner post a stop sign at the south exit, as a reminder to motorists to stop and yield right of way to traffic on 147th St. Paul Repischak made a motion to hold this item on the agenda while he attempts to coordinate the placement of a stop sign at the south exit. The motion was seconded by Dan Meister and carried unanimously.

02 08 07 A citizen advises vehicles traveling east and west on Janice Pl. through its intersection with 147th St. often ignore the yield signs, failing to yield right of way to north and southbound traffic on 147th St. The citizen suggested replacing the yield signs with stop signs.

Ron Schildt advised that accident data revealed only (2) traffic accidents at this intersection in the past seven years. Lt. Repischak advised he had officers monitor the intersection on eight different occasions (during high traffic volume periods) in the weeks leading up to the August Safety Commission meeting. Officers reported no instances of vehicles failing to yield right of way. Some officers reported there being a potential for accidents due to higher traffic volume through the intersection and obstructed visibility at the intersection due to trees and bushes.

The Safety Commission agreed that replacing the yield signs with official stop signs would likely improve safety at the intersection. Ron Schildt made a motion to do just that (flagging the new stop signs for the first 30 days). Earl Strandt seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

01 08 08 Alderman Moore received a complaint from an area resident regarding bushes located on the property at 3201 S. Ridgecrest Ct. (the northwest corner property at Highpointe Dr. and Ridgecrest Ct.) obstructing eastbound motorist on Ridgecrest Ct.'s view of southbound traffic on Highpointe Dr.

Ron Schildt advised that City Engineering would check the "vision triangle" at this location. He will also have measurements taken on the bushes in question. Schildt made a motion to hold this item on the agenda until the data can be gathered. The motion was seconded by Paul Repischak and carried unanimously.

Old Business:

02 08 03 At the Tuesday April 8th, 2008 Proceedings of the Common Council, the Council voted to refer Ordinance No. 2373 to amend the parking restrictions in the City of New Berlin by adding Section 261-4(C) "Alternate Side Parking" to the Safety Commission for discussion and recommendations. Alderman Joe Poshepny carried the Safety Commission's recommendations to Council.

Ron Schildt made a motion to drop this item from the agenda. Dan Meister seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

01 08 02

Alderman William Moore asked the Safety Commission to discuss and a Requested Action Statement pertaining to proposed changes to General Code, City of New Berlin, Section G, Regulation of Direct Sellers, paragraph (1) (a) *Prohibited practices...* Alderman Poshepny carried the Safety Commission's recommendations to Council.

Ron Schildt made a motion to drop this item from the agenda. Fred Witty seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

01 07 12

New Berlin citizens residing on or near Barton Rd. spoke at the meeting and voiced concerns about unsafe conditions for pedestrians, bicyclists, and animals on Barton Rd. due to speeding, tailgating, and illegal passing. One citizen suggested increased traffic enforcement and better signage. Another citizen requested the placement of speed tables along Barton Rd.

Ron Schildt reported that City Engineering completed their traffic study of the area. He handed out the speed traffic data and traffic accident data. The most recent speed traffic data did not show a significant problem with motor vehicle's operating at excessive speeds. The accident data shows five accidents along Barton Rd. in the past seven years (2- Car vs. Deer, 1- Car vs. Mailbox, 1- Car vs. parked vehicle, and 1 Car vs. Tree due to icy roads). Ron Schildt again explained that the terrain along Barton Rd. does not allow for the safe and/ or effective placement of any type of speed tables or speed humps. Ron Schildt advised that the traffic studies indicate the speed limit on Barton Rd. *should be* 45 mph. He advised that motorists are going to have propensity to travel close to that 45 mph speed. With the limit being reduced to 30 mph, Ron Schildt suggested looking into where the speed limit signs are placed and what size sign is being used. He suggested placing larger signs in a more visible area.

Paul Repischak made a motion to have the police department continue with extra traffic enforcement in this area while City Engineering assesses the placement and size of speed limit signs being used. The motion was seconded by Fred Witty and carried unanimously.

Tabled Items: None

Next Meeting Date:

The next meeting of New Berlin Safety Commission is scheduled for Wednesday September 10th, 2008 at 6:00 pm.

Meeting Adjourned:

Fred Witty made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 pm. The motion was seconded by Dan Meister and carried unanimously.

Lt. Paul Repischak

PLEASE NOTE: It is possible that members of and possibly a quorum of members of other governmental bodies of the municipality may be in attendance at the above stated meeting to gather information; no action will be taken by any governmental body at the above stated meeting other than the governmental body specifically referred to above in this notice.

Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of disable individuals through appropriate aids and services. For additional information or to request this service contact the City Clerk at New Berlin City Hall, 262-797-2447