

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES
7:00 p.m., Monday, March 9, 2009
Public Safety Building, 401 E. Third Street, Newberg, OR

“Mission Statement: To give the citizens of Newberg a forum to voice traffic safety concerns, evaluate related issues, provide a liaison with the City and promote traffic safety within the community.”

Members

Present: Chair Michael Simpson Jennifer Dawson (Vice Chair) Doris Brandt
Bryce Jones Neal Klein
Ronald Sult

Members

Absent: Lesley Woodruff (excused) Andrew Cookson (excused)
Dick Meyer (excused)

Ex Officio

Present: Mayor Bob Andrews

Staff

Present: Paul Chiu, Senior Engineer
Tim Weaver, Police Sergeant
Jennifer Nelson, Recording Secretary

Others

Present: Rick Olson, Jerry Dale, Pete Miller, Jim Hamilton

CHAIR MICHAEL SIMPSON CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 7:05 PM.

A) Review and approve minutes for February 9, 2009

<p>MOTION: Jones/Sult to approve the Traffic Safety Commission Minutes for February 9, 2009 as amended. (6 Yes/0 No/3 Absent [Cookson, Meyer, Woodruff]) Motion carried.</p>

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE FLOOR

None.

PUBLIC HEARING

- A) Public Hearing to reconsider the 4-hour parking restriction for the industrial neighborhood at 9th-Industrial Commerce (TSC-08-019)**

TIME – 7:06 PM

Mr. Paul Chiu, Senior Engineer, offered some background for the proposed 4-hour parking restriction for the industrial neighborhood. No additional new information was reported.

Mr. Rick Olson, Rick's Automotive, testified he did not think a 4-hour parking limit was appropriate for an industrial area and employees need the on-street parking; but he would support signage for no truck parking overnight.

Chair Simpson wished to clarify if Commerce Parkway was a private or public owned street.

Mr. Jerry Dale, spoke from the audience and verified he owned the street, it is not publicly owned.

Mr. Pete Miller, Caravan Coffee and Renee Properties, stated the only problem has been the semi-trucks parking overnight and noted there has been some vandalism in the area as well. He also felt no overnight truck parking would be a good solution. He stated his employees currently use the on-street parking for their vehicles during work hours and a 4-hour limit would be a burden for them. He felt a longer limit of eight or twelve hours would be better if restricting by time only.

Mr. Jim Hamilton stated he is involved with property on 9th Street within the hanger association and spoke of hazardous maneuvering with semi-trucks being parked there; he mentioned this area could benefit from some sort of setback. He said there have not been any trucks, only a utility trailer parked there, in the last two days.

Discussions followed as to whether or not it was within the City's code or the TSC's authority to order signs that specifically target one group of vehicles or by a specific time limit instead. It was suggested that a definition of "overnight parking" would be necessary, as well as a way to include both trucks and trailers by weight limitations (i.e. anything over 25,000 lbs).

Commissioner Neal Klein asked if no ordinance offers the ability to issue citations in these situations, then what is the method to create one. Staff replied an ordinance would process would be started, a special district created, and it would be brought to City Council to be set through the legislative process. Then one sign at the entrance to the "special district" would be sufficient.

Chair Simpson asked what keeps trucks from parking on a residential street now. Staff explained that residential zones are different from industrial, and some tractor parking only is allowed by permit only in residential areas.

Discussions followed concerning whether or not an ordinance was in place that allows parking restriction by vehicle type, further research would be necessary.

Chair Simpson suggested restricting all vehicles from parking during a specified time from 8:00 PM to 7:00 AM. Other examples of this around the City were mentioned. Staff stated that enforcement would be complaint driven only after a month or so. Chair Simpson asked if a 4-hour parking limitation between the hours of 8 PM and 7 AM would meet the need to stop overnight truck parking without impeding their businesses; all involved parties present stated this would work for them.

Commissioner Doris Brandt asked if signage could specify “no truck parking between 8 PM and 6 AM. Staff was unsure whether this could be done without creating a new ordinance and suggested limiting by time and vehicle weight.

MOTION: Brandt/Jones to vacate the limited decision on **TSC-08-019** creating a 4-hour parking restriction for the industrial neighborhood at 9th-Industrial-Commerce. (6 Yes/0 No/3 Absent [Cookson, Meyer, Woodruff]) Motion carried.

Commissioner Bryce Jones suggested signage should state no overnight parking for vehicles in excess of 10,000 lbs.

Commissioner Jennifer Dawson mentioned alternatives could also be to post signs for local business only or employee parking only with specified times.

MOTION: Chair Simpson/ to table **TSC-08-019** with instructions to staff to conduct further research with the City Attorney and the Police Chief to see if limit for no parking overnight for vehicles in excess of 10,000 lbs from 8 PM to 6 AM could be instituted. A new hearing date will be set at the April 2009 meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OLD BUSINESS

A) Request for handicapped parking space for a passenger transport vehicle (TSC- 08-020)

TIME – 7:40 PM

Chair Simpson read an email statement and some questions from Commissioner Lesley Woodruff concerning taking up public parking space for a private business (see official meeting packet for full report).

Commissioner Jones stated he was in favor of giving a break to people helping others with disabilities by not forcing that business to take on another expense.

Discussions followed as to whether Mid-Valley Rehabilitation was a non-profit organization or not and where the intended designated parking spot would be located.

Chair Simpson asked Mayor Andrews if he had contacted the owners of the adjacent property owners for permission to park the passenger vehicle there.

Mayor Andrews stated he had not made contact yet.

Mr. Chiu noted that the TSC needed to consider what criteria they would base future decisions on for designating parking spaces if another entity would make the same request.

Chair Simpson was concerned for future development in the area is creating a parking shortage and inhibiting others, especially with two and a half to three spaces being taken up and designated to a single vehicle.

Mayor Andrews wondered if designating this spot today would actually be creating a problem when the company does not seem to be having a problem parking in that spot currently. Staff stated the curb parking is filling up as Wilco expands and employees are using that area to park. If a vehicle is parked there, it will make it difficult for the passenger bus to find a place where the driver will not have to back up. Mayor Andrews commented that based on parking requirements; there should be enough off-street parking provided for employees.

MOTION: Jones/Brandt to table **TSC-08-020** for further research from staff and for the Mayor to contact adjacent business owners. (6 Yes/0 No/3 Absent [Cookson, Meyer, Woodruff]) Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS - GENERAL INFORMATION

A) Police

Sergeant Weaver discussed teambuilding with the police staff and enhancing traffic safety enforcement. He reported recent DUII arrests and a past local case being used as a platform for victim rights groups and awareness to push for legislation to identify and track repeat DUII offenders; discussions of the pros and cons of possible legislation followed.

B) Engineering

- River-Fourth 4-way stop: Public Works Maintenance is scheduling installation (TSC-08-018)

Mr. Paul Chiu, Senior Engineer, discussed stimulus funding activities and the areas to be included for grinding and resurfacing: Mountainview Road between College Street and Main Street; Blaine Street from Hancock to 9th; 9th Street between College and Blaine; 4th Street between River and College; River Street from 1st to 4th; College Street from 1st to 4th; and Meridian from Sierra Vista to Pinehurst. He also updated the TSC that stakes had been placed in the ground at River and 4th Street for the new stop signs to be installed.

C) Items from Commissioners

Chair Simpson reminded the Commission that the team-building day would be April 25, 2009 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM in the Public Safety Building Training room and facilitating by the Director of ACTS Oregon, Ruth Harshfield.

Mayor Andrews discussed the proposal for a student Traffic Safety Commissioner and stated it was in the works.

Chair Simpson asked commissioners to report if he or she had completed the assignment from last meeting to contact one business owner to survey them about truck parking in Newberg.

Commissioner Jones said he would be contacting the owners of the property next to Dairy Queen.

Commissioner Ron Sult asked staff for an update on ODOT's progress with the right in, right out at Hwy 219 and 2nd Street. Staff stated the designing was currently being started in house and would be completed this summer.

Commissioner Dawson asked a couple of friends and family about truck parking in other towns, to see how other municipalities are dealing with the problem.

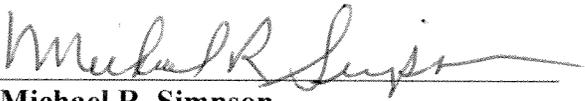
Commissioner Brandt spoke of a utility trailer with no reflectors parking between Main Street and College.

ADJOURN TO NEXT MEETING

MOTION: Brandt/Simpson to adjourn at 8:35 PM until the next meeting on April 13, 2009. (6 Yes/0 No/3 Absent [Cookson, Meyer, Woodruff]) Motion carried.



Jennifer L. Nelson
Recording Secretary



Michael R. Simpson
Traffic Safety Commission Chair