

A regular meeting of the Troy Traffic Committee was held Wednesday, September 19, 2018 in the Lower Level Conference Room at Troy City Hall. Al Petrulis called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Don Johnson
Richard Kilmer
Cindy Nurak
Al Petrulis
Cynthia Wilsher

Absent: Sunil Sivaraman
Pete Ziegenfelder

Also present: Carol Kulish, 4450 Tallman
Satya Panduga, 4360 Rockdale Ct.
Craig Chamberlain, 3785 Highland
Rocco Mistretta, 1640 Rockfield
Narasimha Gudimella, 4361 Rockdale Ct.
Ravichand Kolli, 4343 Rockdale Ct.
Surender Nagireddy, 4397 Rockdale Ct.
Marvin Jiang, 1788 Flemington
Nagaraje Kapur, 4378 Rockdale Ct.
Rajesh Rao, 4379 Rockdale Ct.
Venkat Perreddy, 4415 Rockdale Ct.
Deanna Tabar, 515 Thurber
Lt. Eric Caloia, Fire Department
Sgt. Mike Szuminski, Police Department
Bill Huotari, City Engineer/Traffic Engineer

2. Minutes – July 18, 2018

Resolution # 2018-08-18

Moved by Kilmer

Seconded by Johnson

To approve the minutes as printed.

Yes: Johnson, Kilmer, Nurak, Petrulis, Wilsher

No: None

Absent: Sivaraman, Ziegenfelder

MOTION CARRIED**PUBLIC HEARINGS****3. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 1640 Rockfield Drive (Sidwell #88-20-14-451-054)**

Rocco Mistretta of 1640 Rockfield, requests a sidewalk waiver for the sidewalk at 1640 Rockfield Drive (Sidwell #88-20-14-451-054). Mr. Mistretta states *“the existing homes on Rockfield Drive do not have sidewalks”*

The Department of Public Works (DPW) recommends approving the waiver request and not requiring the installation of sidewalk *“due to the lack of sidewalk on surrounding parcels”*, contingent upon the submission of a cash deposit for future construction and to assure consent and participation in any future sidewalk installation.

Mr. Mistretta was in attendance at the meeting and stated that there are no sidewalks on Rockfield [other than the existing sidewalk on the east end adjacent to Rockfield Court]. He is requesting a sidewalk waiver and is aware that a cash deposit may be required.

Satya Panduga of 4360 Rockdale Court stated that elementary and middle school students are dropped off on Eleanor and walk on Rockfield to get to their homes. Troy Athens students use Rockfield to access the athletic fields or to walk to the school. He would like to see a sidewalk extended to Eleanor.

Narasimha Gudimella of 4361 Rockdale Court supports installation of a sidewalk on Rockfield. He stated that he had objections to previous sidewalk waivers discussed on Rockfield and he attended the meeting tonight to make sure his concerns were heard.

Ravichand Kolli of 4343 Rockdale Court added that during the winter months, when there is snow on the ground, many students walk on the road.

Surender Nagireddy of 4397 Rockdale Court supported the previous statements made and believes it is a safety issue.

Nagarage Kapur of 4378 Rockdale Court also supports the previous statements and feels that somebody should just start somewhere with a sidewalk.

Mr. Mistretta stated that they support a sidewalk, but it is dangerous to only construct sidewalk at one lot due to the ditches in the area. If the entire street were to get sidewalks, they would support that.

Rajesh Rao of 4379 Rockdale Court added that many people walk in the road and when a car approaches they have to move off the road and walk along the ditch.

Ms. Wilsher stated that if the city wants a walkable community, residents will need to pay.

There was a long discussion regarding Special Assessment Districts (SAD) for sidewalks. Residents that are not in the project area (i.e. without financial) cannot force an improvement on other property owners. A resident on Rockfield would need to initiate a sidewalk SAD with the Engineering Department. A mail poll could be sent to gauge resident interest along Rockfield. If 50% or more properties were interested, then an informational meeting would be held. After that, residents would need to circulate a petition and the SAD process would continue from there.

Resolution # 2018-08-19

Moved by Johnson

Seconded by Nurak

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, Rocco Mistretta has requested a waiver of the requirement to construct sidewalk based on a lack of sidewalk on surrounding parcels; 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 1640 Rockfield Drive (Sidwell #88-20-14-451-054) contingent upon the receipt of a cash deposit commensurate with the cost of sidewalk construction.

Yes: Johnson, Kilmer, Nurak, Petrulis, Wilsher

No: None

Absent: Sivaraman, Ziegenfelder

MOTION CARRIED

REGULAR BUSINESS

4. Request for Traffic Control – Evaline Drive at Tallman Drive

Deanna Tabar of 515 Thurber states that the lack of traffic control at the intersection of Evaline Drive at Tallman Drive creates a hazardous condition.

Traffic Engineering received one (1) email opposed to the installation of a Stop sign.

Deanna Tabar of 515 Thurber was present at the meeting and stated that there has been increased traffic from Evaline. Traffic does not stop or yield prior to entering Tallman. She has had a few near misses recently.

Carol Kulish of 4450 Tallman opposes signs on Tallman. She is OK with a sign on Evaline. She does not feel there is a lot of traffic on Evaline.

Mr. Kilmer stated that Yield signs do not work and supports a Stop sign.

Mr. Johnson noted that all of the other streets intersecting Tallman have Stop signs. He further discussed that Evaline is not a through street due to the drain at the west end. The only people who use Evaline are those who live there.

Mr. Petrulis noted that OHM Advisors recommends a Yield sign on Evaline.

Mr. Kilmer does not believe the studies. The resident who lives in the area sees traffic and other issues daily and they are there every day rather than just during a one or two day study period.

Mr. Johnson stated that he does not support an All-Way Stop at the intersection.

Ms. Wilsher stated that people don't know what a Yield sign is.

Ms. Nurak stated that people using the intersection are coming from Evaline. She added that a Stop sign on Evaline would be consistent with the traffic control at the other side streets intersecting with Tallman.

Resolution # 2018-08-20

Moved by Kilmer

Seconded by Wilsher

RESOLVED, that the intersection of Evaline Drive at Tallman Drive be **MODIFIED** from no traffic control to a STOP sign on the Evaline Drive approach to the intersection.

Yes: Kilmer, Nurak, Petrulis, Wilsher

No: Johnson

Absent: Sivaraman, Ziegenfelder

MOTION CARRIED

5. Public Comment

There was no public comment at the meeting.

6. Other Business

There was no other business at the meeting.

7. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Al Petrulis, Acting Chairperson

Bill Huotari, City Engineer/Traffic Engineer