

A regular meeting of the Troy Traffic Committee was held Wednesday, September 20, 2023 in the Lower Level Conference Room at Troy City Hall. Pete Ziegenfelder called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

1. Roll Call

Present: Shama Kenkre
Richard Kilmer
Cindy Nurak
Al Petrulis
Abi Swaminathan
Pete Ziegenfelder

Absent: Cynthia Wilsher

Also present: G. Scott Finlay, City Engineer
Sgt. Brian Warzecha, Police Department
Deputy Fire Chief, Paul Firth, Fire Department
Merissa Clark, Administrative Assistant

2. Minutes – June 21, 2023 & July 19, 2023 Traffic Committee

Resolution # 2023-09-09
Moved by Petrulis
Seconded by Kilmer

To approve the June 21, 2023 & July 19, 2023 minutes as printed.

Yes: Kenkre, Kilmer, Nurak, Petrulis, Swaminathan, Ziegenfelder
No: None
Absent: Wilsher

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 6910 Donaldson (Sidwell # 88-20-03-126-049)

Paul Dodson with Newmark Homes of Michigan requests a sidewalk waiver for the sidewalk at 6910 Donaldson (Sidwell # 88-20-03-126-049). Mr. Dodson states:

- a. There are no other sidewalks in the subdivision. This would be the only sidewalk and property on both sides as well as across the street have no sidewalks. A sidewalk would literally be a sidewalk to nowhere.*

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 the surrounding parcels*”

and the open drainage ditches of the area”, subject to the submission of a cash deposit for future construction to assure consent and participation in any future sidewalk installation.

Michael Barry of 6875 Donaldson is against sidewalks going in, it does not fit the area on Donaldson.

The homeowner at 6899 Donaldson also stated he is against it; his home does not have sidewalks and it would not look good to have it at 6910 Donaldson.

Danelle Chandra-Sekhar of 6972 Donaldson is against the sidewalk going in, she stated it would not lead anywhere.

The traffic committee did not discuss this item any further.

Resolution # 2023-09-10
Moved by Kilmer
Seconded by Swaminathan

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, Paul Dodson with Newmark Homes of Michigan has requested a waiver of the requirement to construct sidewalk based on 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 6910 Donaldson (Sidwell # 88-20-03-126-049) contingent upon receipt of a cash deposit, commensurate with the cost of sidewalk construction.

Yes: Kenkre, Kilmer, Nurak, Petrulis, Swaminathan, Ziegenfelder

No: None

Absent: Wilsher

MOTION CARRIED

4. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 2368, 2376, & 2384 Vermont (Sidwell # 88-20-25-351-074 thru 076)

Gary Abitheria with GFA Homes requests a sidewalk waiver for the sidewalk at 2368, 2376 & 2384 Vermont (Sidwell # 88-20-25-351-074 thru 076). Mr. Abitheria states:

- a. *There are no other sidewalks in the subdivision. This would be the only sidewalk and property on both sides as well as across the street have no sidewalks. A sidewalk would literally be a sidewalk to nowhere.*
- b. *There are several new construction homes in the subdivision and none of them 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 the surrounding parcels and the open drainage ditches of the area*”, subject to the submission of a cash deposit for future construction to assure consent and participation in any future sidewalk installation.

THIS ITEM WAS REMOVED BY THE APPLICANT

REGULAR BUSINESS

5. Request for Traffic Control – Booth Rd. at Donaldson Rd.

Bretagne Whitford of 263 Booth Rd. requests that the intersection of Booth Rd. and Donaldson Rd. be reviewed for purposes of traffic control on Donaldson Rd. at the intersection. She states: I live in Troy at the intersection Booth Road and Donaldson Road. If you go south on Donaldson and you pass Booth, there is a dangerous low-visibility, curvy section ahead. I often find people speed out of that curvy section heading north across Booth Road. It is a long stretch without a stop sign. I live right at that corner and have three elementary aged children and it makes me nervous. Their bus stop is also at that same intersection; and again, it is nerve wrecking for them to stand at that corner. I would like to put in a request for a stop sign to be installed at that intersection.

Hello-

My name is Jode Michael, I am at 270 Booth right at the intersection in question.

I find a four way stop to be unnecessary and honestly a little dramatic of the resident requesting it.

This intersection I would consider low traffic and I've never witnessed any incidents take place. My house has a front row view.

I hope this helps in the matter. If you have any questions or need any further statement from me, please see free to reach out via this email or my direct cell number: (586)846-1352.

Jode Michael

Good morning Mr. G. Scott Finlay,

I am unable to attend the September 20th meeting but would like to add my opinion on the Booth Rd and Donaldson Rd intersection matter.

I was pleased to learn that a resident had submitted this request. I have observed drivers speeding through that intersection and have also witnessed a few close calls from those approaching from the Ottawa Rd direction. Also, there is a bus stop at that intersection and drivers should be forced to slow down for the childrens' safety.

I believe a 4-way stop is a necessary for the intersection.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kristy Nagle (287 Booth Rd)

Hello,

I am writing in response to the notification that I received, regarding the request, to make the intersection of Donaldson Rd and Booth, a 4 way stop.

We live two houses from that corner and have not seen any accidents or safety problems in the 35 yrs that we have lived here. The volume of traffic has not seemed to have increased and there is no planned building of homes in the area.

There are, also, a lot of other stop signs in the vicinity of that spot, which keeps traffic at slow speeds.

Therefore, my husband and I, are against adding another stop sign there, to make it a 4 way stop.

Thank you for your consideration,

Nancy and Hank Thoenes

6371 Donaldson

Troy

Bretagne Whitford at 263 Booth Rd is concerned for the residents that are walking in the street with the speeding cars. The bus stop is at the corner of Booth and Donaldson and is very unsafe. The bus stop has 2 school districts picking up and dropping off at this stop so it has a lot of traffic every day. She is concerned for her three small children, as well as the children that live in the sub and continue to move in.

Mike Berry at 6875 Donaldson is in support of the stop sign, he states he sees a lot of speeding on Donaldson.

Jennifer Gillre at 212 Booth is in support of the stop sign.

Sgt. Brian Warzecha added that it would not hurt.

Al Petrulis pointed out that OHM's study did suggest that no changes be made.

Bretagne asked why the report stated that, and Pete explained how the study was done. Bretagne also added that there are two large bushes at the intersection that make it hard to see.

Richard Kilmer brought up that the streets near Donaldson have 4-way stops and he is very unsure on what decision to make and believes that all of troy is busy since we are a very populated city.

Jennifer Gillre at 212 Booth stated that the reason this stop sign is so important is because they want the children to all be safe at the bus stop, no other reason but that.

Cindy Nurak stated that she is not a fan of unnecessary stop signs but the safety of the kids is huge and she works with young kids and understands how important it is.

Al Petrulis explained that the studies have shown people are more likely to speed when they think signs are unnessicary and that it can be an added danger, because people assume it's clear but the bus stop being at the intersection does change things.

Resolution # 2023-09-11
Moved by Nurak
Seconded by Kilmer

RESOLVED, that the intersection of Booth Rd. at Donaldson Rd be **MODIFIED** from UNCONTROLLED, to STOP CONTROLLED.

Yes: Kenkre, Kilmer, Nurak, Petrulis, Swaminathan, Ziegenfelder
No: None
Absent: Wilsher

6. Public Comment

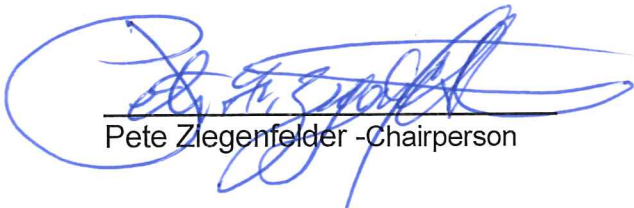
There was no further public comment at the meeting.

7. Other Business

Michael Berry asked when sidewalk would be installed on Donaldson, G. Scott Finlay explained to him the SAD process.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.



Pete Ziegenfelder -Chairperson



G. Scott Finlay, City Engineer/Traffic Engineer