

A regular meeting of the Troy Traffic Committee was held Wednesday, November 20, 2024 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: Dale Christiansen
Cindy Nurak
Justin Rose
Al Petrulis
Abi Swaminathan (Late for first vote)
Pete Ziegenfelder

Absent: Shama Kenkre

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

2. Minutes – September 18, 2024 Traffic Committee

Resolution # 2024-11-18
Moved by Rose
Seconded by Nurak

RESOLVED, that the Traffic Committee approve the September 18, 2024 minutes with one correction on page 2.

Yes: Christiansen, Nurak, Rose, Petrulis, Ziegenfelder
No: None
Absent: Kenkre, Swaminathan (not present for this vote)

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC HEARINGS

3. Request for Sidewalk Waiver – 2107 Chancery (Sidwell # 88-20-01-107-015)

Zachary Morey, homeowner requests a sidewalk waiver for the sidewalk at 2107 Chancery (Sidwell # 88-20-01-107-015). The homeowner 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.

Zachary Morey the owner at 2107 Chancery introduced himself, and explained that no other homes in the subdivision have sidewalks, the sidewalks would not be connected to anything. He stated that he doesn't agree with the waiver fee being paid or what it is even for.

Pete Ziegenfelder explained the City's Ordinance and the Sidewalk Waiver process, and that the deposit is going to be used for the sidewalks that will be installed in the future.

A neighbor asked Zachary if he wanted sidewalk, he explained he did not want sidewalk installed. The neighbor misunderstood the sidewalk waiver request and thought the city wanted the entire subdivision to install sidewalks.

Cindy Nurak asked when the ordinance was put into place.

Scott Finlay wasn't sure on the exact date, and would let her know at the next meeting.

No further discussion was had.

Resolution # 2024-11-19

Moved by Rose

Seconded by Christiansen

Yes: Christiansen, Nurak, Rose, Petruilis, Swaminathan, Ziegenfelder

No: None

Absent: Kenkre

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, Zachary Morey, homeowner of 2107 Chancery 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 2107 Chancery (Sidwell # 88-20-01-107-015) contingent upon receipt of a cash deposit, commensurate with the cost of sidewalk construction.

REGULAR BUSINESS

5. Request for Traffic Control – Hurst St. at Donaldson Rd.

Bretagne Whitford of 263 Booth Rd. requests that the intersection of Hurst St. and Donaldson Rd. be reviewed for purposes of traffic control on Hurst St at the intersection. She states: At Hurst and Donaldson, there is only a stop sign in one direction and the crossing intersection doesn't stop. All the neighboring intersections have stop signs so this one is an outlier. It causes confusions with drivers, riders and pedestrians. There is also a giant bush that obstructs the view of oncoming traffic and makes it difficult to proceed. Summer weather is just beginning and my children have told me they almost got hit twice in that intersection, so I'd like to request that this intersection be a four way stop like all of the other intersections in the area.

Bretagne had the following to say about the intersection study: I respectfully disagree with your recommendation on several points, particularly regarding the lack of a speed test on the road. The absence of that data doesn't allow justification for my point that my son nearly got hit twice at that intersection by a speeding vehicle, and it is well-known to us in that neighborhood that vehicles often speed down this stretch. The report does suggest that the safest approach would be to install a four-way stop. I'd like to expand on that recommendation, especially in light of recent changes to the traffic patterns in the area. I have included the relevant section of the report below, with my comments following:

"The safe approach speed calculations suggested STOP-control would be appropriate for the Hurst Street approaches. However, the roadway network in this portion of Troy is set up with a more traditional grid system. With the grid system, it is recommended to alternate traffic control at adjacent intersections. At the intersections to the north and south of the study intersection, the eastbound and westbound approaches are under stop control. This means for the study intersection of Hurst Street at Donaldson Road, that the northbound and southbound approaches of Donaldson Road should be under stop control in order to alternate traffic control."

This alternating stop method may have been relevant in the past, but it is no longer true for the neighborhood. In the last four years, several intersections in the area have had stop signs installed, and this intersection at Donaldson is now the only one without a four-way stop. As a result, it has become an outlier. Given these updates and the noted speeding issue, I believe a four-way stop is the safest and most consistent solution for both local residents and drivers unfamiliar with the area. It would prevent the inconsistent traffic control currently in place and greatly enhance safety, especially for all the kids in the neighborhood.

Bretagne Whitford of 263 Booth Rd stated that initially the subdivision did not have all the signage that it has now, she had come to the Traffic Committee in the past to make a request for a different intersection. She explained that her son was the corner of Hurst and Donaldson and was almost hit on two occasions. She believes it would make more sense to have a 4-

way stop installed at this intersection since this is the only intersection in the area without one and it may cause confusion for drivers.

Marty Hart agreed, and understands her concerns.

Dale Christiansen stated he drove down those streets and it was a race track. No sidewalk in the subdivision and it looks like it's just asking for trouble.

Justin Rose pointed out that drivers would likely use other streets to avoid stop signs, and he doesn't typically like going against traffic studies but he does think this is smart.

Cindy Nurak pointed out that the safe stop speed was very slow and thinks the sign should be installed, or the bushed at the corner needs to be removed.

Resolution # 2024-11-20

Moved by Rose

Seconded by Petrulis

RESOLVED, that the Hurst St. Approach at Donaldson Rd. be modified from UNCONTROLLED, to STOP CONTROLLED.

Yes: Christiansen, Kenkre, Nurak, Rose, Petrulis, Ziegenfelder

No: None

Absent: Swaminathan

MOTION CARRIED

6. Request for No Parking Zone Extension – Capri Dr.

Roger O'Toole of 5357 Capri Dr requests that the NO PARKING ZONE be extended around the entire circle so emergency vehicles can access without issue.

Paul Krajewski lives at 5351 Capri, he is unclear on what problem this would solve. The area has very little parking as is, and thinks the court parking is safer than parking on the curve. He does not think this is the right decision.

Roger O'Toole explained that the reason for his request was a few months ago he had to call EMS, and they were unable to get to his driveway. Roger explained his neighbor has 4 cars and a trailer that parking in the street is a convince for him but a safety concern for him. Roger O'Toole doesn't think parking spaces should be prioritized over his issues, his driveway is constantly being blocked. Stated that the health & safety should be prioritized over the convenience of parking on the street. He added that one of the neighbor's cars was parked there since August and was just moved recently.

Paul Krajewski addressed Mr. O'Toole and asked him to come talk to him and apologized for causing any issues.

Deputy Fire Chief, Michael Koehler stated that he does see an issue with trucks getting in and out, and added that it would be difficult.

Mr. O'Toole stated a fire truck was unable to get a truck into Capri in the past due to illegal parking on Capri.

Justin Rose asked Scott Finlay if he had any history since there was No Parking on all the cul-de-sacs and that it was unclear if it's an issue for trucks or ambulances.

Scott Finlay had no history and added that this would not meet today's standard.

Pete Ziegenfelder that in the past we have removed parking and added it back after.

Dale Christiansen asked if the no parking could be extended near the driveway opposed to the whole cul-de-sac.

Justin Rose asked if one spot would help or if no parking all together would be best.

Deputy Fire Chief, Michael Koehler explained no cars would be best, but that access to the fire hydrant would be his biggest concern.

Sgt. Brian Warzecha addressed the illegal parking situation and stated that he can have the Police Department address it next time it happens.

Paul Krajewski explained that parking is only 48 hours at a time.

Sgt. Brian Warzecha explained that the police do try to call tow trucks for illegal parking and asked Scott Finlay what the distance would/should be for this area. He added he doesn't think it would be better one way or the other.

Justin Rose agreed with Dale Christiansen thinking that extending it partially for a car length would that would help with ambulances.

Pete Ziegenfelder is in favor of no parking.

Dale Christiansen made a motion to extend the current no parking for 1 vehicle length to be determined by DPW.

Justin Rose seconded this.

Cindy Nurak asked if extending the no parking would even help with an ambulance getting to the area.

Justin Rose explained they could back in and exit the driveway easier.

Resolution # 2024-11-21

Moved by Christiansen
Seconded by Rose

RESOLVED, that the No Parking Zone Extension on Capri Drive be **APPROVED** to extend the No Parking Zone 25-30 feet northeast of the driveway at 5357 Capri Drive.

Yes: Christiansen, Kenkre, Nurak, Rose, Petrulis, Ziegenfelder
No: None
Absent: Swaminathan

7. 2025 Traffic Committee Meeting Schedule

According to the City of Troy Traffic Committee By-Laws, Article IV – Meetings:

“Regular meetings will be held on the third Wednesday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at the Troy City Hall, 500 West Big Beaver Road, Troy, Michigan.”

There are no other by-laws or procedures that establish the actual dates of the meetings, but an annual calendar of meetings is published by the City so meeting dates need to be set for this purpose.

Resolution # 2024-11-22
Moved by Nurak
Seconded by Rose

RESOLVED, that the Traffic Committee SHALL HOLD Regular Meetings in 2025 according to the following schedule at 7:30 PM:

- Wednesday, January 15
- Wednesday, February 19
- Wednesday, March 19
- Wednesday, April 16
- Wednesday, May 21
- Wednesday, June 18
- Wednesday, July 16
- August – NO MEETING
- Wednesday, September 17
- Wednesday, October 15
- Wednesday, November 19
- December – NO MEETING

7. Public Comment

A Resident that lives near Chancery asked a question about the sidewalk deposit, and if there is a way for the homeowner to get the deposit back.

Pete Ziegenfelder explained that it will be used for sidewalk installed in the future.

8. Other Business

No other business.

9. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:17 PM.



Pete Ziegenfelder -Chairperson



G. Scott Finlay, City Engineer/Traffic Engineer