

STATE OF TEXAS

COUNTY OF BRAZORIA

CITY OF LAKE JACKSON

BE IT KNOWN that the Traffic Commission of the City of Lake Jackson met on May 10, 2016 at 6:30 P.M. at 25 Oak Drive, Lake Jackson, Texas, in the City Hall Council Chambers with the following in attendance:

Garrett Williams, Chair
Douglas Kincannon, Vice Chair
Willem Mookhoek
Mark Allen, Secretary
Barry Tidwell
Larry Rosenbohm
Andy Anderson

William Yenne, City Manager
Giani Cantu, Asst. City Secretary
James Cromeenes, Detective Lieutenant
Will Brooks, Council Liaison

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mark Allen led the pledge of allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On motion by _____ second by _____
with all present members voting "aye", the minutes of April were approved.

VISITORS' COMMENTS

There were no visitor comments.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A FOUR WAY STOP AT THE INTERSECTION OF GARDENIA AND CYPRESS AS REQUESTED BY RONNIE DUVAL

Mark Allen second by Barry Tidwell with all present members voting "aye" the commission voted to put out proposed stop sign signs at the intersection of Gardenia and Cypress for a proposed four-way stop.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER A NO U-TURN SIGN AT THE END OF THE MEDIAN ON SANDLEWOOD AT ZINNIA AS REQUESTED BY SUHA ICSEZEN

Suha Icezen, 129 Zinnia, stated that he notices drivers coming out of the Kroger's parking lot and making a u-turn to go back towards Lake Jackson and he's concerned it could be a safety issue. There is also u-turns being made on Oyster Creek Drive at the median at the intersection where the lights will go in.

Discussion was held on the study that was done for the Kroger's development and the effects to city traffic in the area.

Further discussion was held on where the u-turn is being made and options, if any.

The commission suggested waiting until the light goes on.

No action was taken.

This item will be brought back next month.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER REGULATING OVERNIGHT PARKING ON PUBLIC STREETS IN COMMERCIAL AREAS

Robert Louis Bean, 113 Ash Lane, stated he was present in his professional capacity as manager of Comfort Suites located at 296 Abner Jackson Parkway to discuss specifically regarding truck tractor vehicles along the east portion of Abner Jackson Parkway. Mr. Bean gave a history of the property, business and parking on Abner Jackson. He stated that only recently complaints have been received and they are being told that parking on Abner Jackson is not allowed because it is in a residential area. Mr. Bean gave his interpretation of the current zoning and ordinances in place and stated he has had to turn away customers because of this issue. Their hotel is not a trucker hotel. They have regular truck customers in the week.

Willem Mookhoek asked what they are asking for and what was the purpose of this item?

Ms. Cantu stated Police Chief Park brought this issue as the police department has been responding to complaints of trucks parking on the roadway.

Mr. Mookhoek asked why, all of a sudden, if there is no ordinance, is the police department saying they can no longer park there?

Detective Cromeenes stated the discussion was confusing as to if the road is commercial or residential.

Mr. Yenne stated all ordinances read by Mr. Bean were read correctly. Mr. Yenne stated they are asking the commission to make the clarification.

Garrett Williams arrived at 7:02 pm.

Mr. Kincannon asked if clarifying either way will cause loss of services for either the residential or commercial properties.

Mr. Rosenbohm stated it is commercial except right in front of the Jackson Village Retirement Community.

Mark Allen stated it is reasonable for folks at the Jackson Village Retirement Community to not want trucks parked directly in front of their residence but it is a primarily commercial street.

Mr. Yenne stated most of our four way streets are no parking.

Mr. Allen stated but those roads are massive thru points on that street.

Mr. Mookhoek asked if it would resolve the issue if signs were put out allowing parking in certain areas.

Mr. Yenne stated they could do no parking in front of the residential.

Mr. Tidwell stated that some of the problems come from the 18 wheelers parked there leaving the refrigerated trucks running all night.

Mr. Bean stated that was an issue previously and Comfort Suites management did inform the driver that

the truck compressor needed to be replaced or they would not be allowed to park there. The hotel does respond to any noise complaints.

Mr. Kincannon asked what time do the trucks usually park on the road.

Mr. Bean stated the trucks are gone by 6 a.m..

Mr. Tidwell asked Detective Cromeenes if a truck is required to have lighting or reflectors.

Detective Cromeenes stated there is no requirement.

Mr. Yenne stated the Dow innovation center is not at capacity and could be issue when it is. The Police Department is struggling to regulate the residential aspect of the street. City Attorney suggestion was to see if the traffic commission wanted to regulate. Mr. Yenne asked if trucks are parking on the Dow side.

Mr. Bean stated trucks are typically on the hotel side and are gone by 6 am. Would the commission consider giving parking time limits? Therefore, the hotel wouldn't have to turn away revenue but could instruct the drivers that they must be gone by 6 a.m.

Mr. Brooks, council liaison, gave a suggestion if commission wants to help Police Department, they could give temporary permission to only park directly in front of their facility. In November of this year, the research and development will be opening and it will be a good time to revisit.

Mr. Bean stated for clarification this option limits the number of guests they can accommodate to 2. At least with both sides they can accommodate up to 5.

Mr. Yenne stated staff can contact all parties involved to see what thoughts are and come back, but what is the solution for now.

Mr. Mookhoek asked why this street is so special and would they consider changing the ordinance for all commercial streets.

Mr. Allen stated he prefers the residential area designated as no truck parking for now and the remainder of the zone can be commercial zone.

Mr. Mookhoek stated is it fair to effect the local business by making them turn away business because somebody wants to park once in a while on the road with no impact to anything.

Mr. Allen stated he would like to hear from the folks that are potentially impacted, the folks that are notifying the police, before they make any permanent changes.

Douglas Kincannon made a motion to temporarily allow parking directly in front of the hotel from 6 pm to 6 am on the street until more information is gathered to make a permanent recommendation. Mark Allen seconded by beginning discussion.

Mr. Allen stated if they are going to make any changes to the current ordinance, they need input from the other side and is not in agreement with parking only on one side. They need to clarify whether it's residential or commercial. The answer is it is residential in front of the residence.

With all members voting "nay" the motion was denied.

On motion by Mark Allen, second by Willem Mookhoek with all present members voting "aye" the commission recommends a temporary plan to designate the area directly in front of the residential development a residential street.

Mr. Mookhoek asked if the motion is enough guidance for the police department.

Mr. Cromeenes stated yes.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER INCREASING THE SPEED LIMIT ON MEDICAL DRIVE FROM 30 MPH TO 35 MPH

On motion by Mark Allen second by Larry Rosenbohm with all present members voting "aye" the commission recommends a traffic study to consider changing the speed limit on Medical Drive from Oak Drive to the end of Medical Drive.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER TRAFFIC ON CENTER WAY NEAR DIXIE DRIVE

There was no data to present on Center Way.

No discussion on this item. This item will be brought back next month.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER CHANGING THE YIELD SIGN TO A STOP SIGN AND ADDING DO NOT BLOCK STRIPING AT THE INTERSECTION OF PLANTATION COURT AND PLANTATION DRIVE

The proposed stop sign survey tallied 10 in favor 7 against.

On motion by Mark Allen second by Willem Mookhoek with all present members voting "aye" the commission recommends changing the Plantation Drive yield sign to a stop sign and adding no blocking intersection striping on Plantation Court.

Mr. Anderson asked when Magnolia is going to tie into Plantation drive.

Mr. Yenne stated it was voted down during budget process.

Pinkey Hatlan, 55 Plantation Ct, stated the issue is not on Plantation Court, it's the traffic coming off of the feeder. The proposed solution is a good suggestion.

DISCUSS AND CONSIDER DROP OFF AND PICK UP LOCATIONS FOR RASCO ELEMENTARY ON LAKE ROAD

Garrett Williams stated he spoke with the principal and the school does not like the dropping directly in front of drives.

Mr. Yenne stated we could add an item on next agenda to consider no stop stand park.

Mr. Williams suggested commission members visit the schools in their designated areas before school is over to discuss the traffic around the school to make any changes to consider.

Discussion for traffic around the schools will be on the next agenda.

UPDATE ON WALNUT AND OLEANDER TRAFFIC CALMING SOLUTIONS

Mr. Yenne stated staff is installing the speed cushions on Walnut.

BK Watson, 202 Moss Rose, intersection of Walnut and Moss Rose, stated there is a problem with the trolley right across the street and asked when they are going to be moved.

Mr. Yenne stated the trolley's are not working, to our understanding. The last discussion was to move the permanent solar paneled on to Oleander but Oleander is not showing a need.

BK Watson stated he is not for the trolleys. Traffic is using them to just see how fast they can go.

Mr. Allen stated trolleys were put there based on neighborhood interests as a resolve to do something and asked the commission if the trolleys have served their purpose.

Mr. Tidwell stated there is no need for them.

Mr. Allen suggested they go ahead and pull them then.

Mr. Williams stated they will be removed.

ACCIDENT REPORTS – APRIL

The reports were approved as submitted.

ITEMS OF COMMUNITY INTEREST

Mr. Anderson reported he was contacted by a group called the LODD Task Force (PD, FD, and EMS) Since 2000, we have lost about 200 first responders. The government has signed a proclamation that the month of May be declared as LODD month. They are asking that on Thursday everyone wear purple in support.

Mr. Williams asked staff to check the light at Lake Road and Oak Drive to see if it's on timer.

Mitchell Jacobs, Tangarine Ct., reported going east on This Way as you come to the service road there is no sign telling its left turn only. Mr. Yenne stated the sign is a little further back from the intersection. The city has previously requested signage closer to the intersection. However, TXDOT denied. Mr. Mookhoek suggested Mr. Jacobs contact our representative, Dennis Bonnen.

ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Andy Anderson second by Willem Mookheok, with all present members voting “aye” and there being no further business the meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.

These minutes read and approved this ____ day of _____, 2016.

Garrett Williams, Chairman

Mark Allen, Secretary