

**VILLAGE OF FRANKFORT**  
**MINUTES OF THE TRAFFIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**MARCH 4, 2020**

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chairman William Dowding called the regular meeting of the Traffic Advisory Committee to order on Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 9:00am.

In attendance were Chairman William Dowding, Scott Potter, John Burica, Terry Kestel, Kevin Hack, Kris Faron, and Glen Kappel.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES (January 8, 2020)**

Terry Kestel made a motion (#1), seconded by Scott Potter, to approve the minutes of the Traffic Advisory Committee meeting of January 8, 2020. The motion to approve the minutes was unanimous.

**PROGRESS REPORTS**

- Abbey Woods
  - Terry Kestel - Informational signs added to speed limit signs
  - Scott Potter – See attached traffic studies
- East Point Industrial Park
  - Chairman Dowding – Signs approved; developer has been notified

**WILLOW STREET – PARKING CONCERNS**

Chairman Dowding was contacted by residents of Willow Street over parking concerns between Colorado Ave and Ohio Road. Kris Faron, and Glen Kappel were present at the meeting. Colleen Rosko, and Larry Schletz were not present, but both requested that their feelings be known.

Chairman Dowding opened the discussion and asked Mr. Kappel to explain his position. Mr. Kappel outlined the parking issues that he and several of his neighbors have experienced over the last few years. In summary all parking related issues are tied to Lincoln-Way East High School students parking their vehicles in front of the homes on Willow St. The street has no curbs and the easement has a swale that allows water to run off. Many times ruts develop due to the conditions in this area. Mr. Kappel and Ms. Faron advised that students can be rude and disrespectful to them when confronted about driving and parking habits.

Ms. Rosko, who could not be present at the meeting, had a similar complaint and requested some parking restrictions be enacted on the street.

Mr. Schletz, who could not be present at the meeting does not feel that additional parking restrictions are warranted and requested that his written message be read during the meeting.

Chairman Dowding read the following letter aloud during the meeting

*I am in complete disagreement with the idea of making Willow Street no parking and or no parking from 8:00 to 10:00 for the following reasons.*

- 1. As a resident that has been associated with this property for over 40 years and having it as my permanent address for about 32 of those years I feel that we should be able to utilize street parking. I currently own 3 vehicles and have a company van which I am the only driver due to insurance coverage. we have 3 licensed drivers in the house. With a 2 car garage and drive way not allowing me to park in the street will cause me undue stress. I have a difficult time during the winter while the 2 inch snow ban is in effect.*
- 2. The east side of the street is now being enforced as no parking. This has only been a couple weeks since this happened. I would ask that the village allow this time to work before making any other changes. This seem to be working except for the fact that some residents have put up barriers to restrict parking and or force parking more towards the center of the street. They will argue that this is to allow the snow plows to see the end of the street. Since they placed these we have had no snow and I was told by one of them it was to prevent people from parking on their lawn. As we all should understand this is a public easement and is not the residents lawn. The fact is they are doing so to exasperate the problem to force the village to see thing incorrectly.*
- 3. The area east of the clinic had an identical problem a few years back. As a result the area was made no parking so the problem moved west. This proposal of making willow is not a solution to the problem. The problem will continue to go to other areas but the inconvenience to myself and others will continue.*
- 4. The problem truly resides with the high school it seems to be more apparent after the new year when many of the juniors get their license and a car. the school currently does not allow many juniors to get any of the limited number of parking permits. the problem will subside at the end of the school year. But if the village were to make this no parking we the residents will be unduly burdened by this permanently.*

*I would ask that the committee would table this issue from further action until we know if the no parking on the east side of the street will work and or a more suitable proposal that will allow the residents to continue to lawfully park near their resident on a permanent 24 hour basis.*

*If you would like to contact me to discuss this further please call me at 815-954-1669*

*Thank you for your time and consideration on this issue*

Chairman Dowding added that a petition was signed by 8 residents on Willow St. expressing their desire for “no parking” restrictions.

John Burica cited the fact that several other streets in the area are regulated with no parking signage on school days from 10am -11am. These residents all had similar complaints to the residents on Willow St. The group discussed several issues that could arise with resident or maintenance vehicles being parked on the street. All agreed that this would be an issue that homeowners would have to accept.

Following additional discussion a motion was made by John Burica (#2) and seconded by Scott Potter to approve the posting of signage indicating **No Parking during school days from 10am-11am** on the west side of Willow Street from Colorado Avenue to Ohio Road. The motion was unanimously approved.

### **FOLD DOWN STOP SIGNS – LARAWAY ROAD**

Chairman Dowding was contacted by Terry Kestel in reference to the stop signs attached to the traffic signals along Laraway Road.

In summary the Will County Division of Transportation (WCDOT) owns and maintains the signs that are attached to traffic signals at the following intersections.

- Laraway Rd & 116th /Owens Rd
- Laraway Rd & Wolf Rd
- Laraway Rd & Center Rd
- Laraway Rd & 80th Ave

WCDOT is stopping the use of these signs and require an intergovernmental agreement if the Village of Frankfort would desire to take over the maintenance and operation of the signs.

Terry Kestel opened the discussion and stated that the general concern with the use of stop signs occurs after the lights become operational. If the signs are left down, motorists could be confused by the conflicting signage. John Burica felt that the signs would be rarely used but could become important during a long-term power outage.

Chairman Dowding felt that the risk of leaving the signs down could be mitigated with additional checks by police once the signs were needed to be closed. Additional discussion continued and the group agreed that there was a need for the stop signs.

John Burica made a motion (#3) to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with the Will County Division of Transportation to assume the maintenance and operation of the fold down stop signs at the following intersections:

- Laraway Rd & 116th /Owens Rd
- Laraway Rd & Wolf Rd
- Laraway Rd & Center Rd
- Laraway Rd & 80th Ave

Scott Potter seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

### **SPEED LIMIT – STEGER ROAD WEST OF HARLEM AVENUE**

Chairman Dowding was contacted by Terry Kestel in reference to the speed limit on Steger Road west of Harlem Avenue to the village limits. Currently, the roadway is posted 45mph, but

the village ordinance did not reflect that posted limit. Mr. Kestel requested that the group discuss the matter.

Scott Potter opened the discussion and advised that he had recently conducted a traffic study on that stretch of roadway. Generally, the speeds were in the 40-45mph range. The group discussion continued and several factors were considered. As a result Terry Kestel made a motion (#4) to post a 45mph speed limit on Steger Road west of Harlem Avenue to the village limits. Scott Potter seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

Scott Potter added that during the 6-day traffic study over 55 commercial vehicles were captured on the roadway. He noted that the roadway was not designed for this type of traffic and felt that "No Truck" signage was warranted.

Discussion continued and Scott Potter made a motion (#5) to post "No Trucks" signage on Steger Road west of Harlem Avenue to the village limits. Terry Kestel seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

#### **Steger Road Speed Limit - 80<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

John Burica requested that the committee discuss the speed limits along Steger Road west of 80<sup>th</sup> Avenue at a future meeting.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Hearing no further business John Burica made a motion (#6), seconded by Terry Kestel, to adjourn the Traffic Advisory Committee meeting of March 4, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. The motion was unanimously approved.