

Planning, Streets and Traffic Committee
Thursday, November 27, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.
City Service Center – 915 Quarrier Street – Conference Room

Members Present

Mary Beth Hoover, via phone
Jennifer Pharr, Chair
Becky Ceperley
Pam Burka
Kathy Rubio

Staff Present

Dan Vriendt
Terri Allen, via phone
Matt Hartline
Sgt. Oldaker

Members Absent

John Gianola
Bobby Haas

Others Present

Chuck Barker w/IUOE

1. Call to Order

2. Unfinished Business

Request to remove parking meters in front of the IUOE Local 132 building in the 600 block of Tennessee Avenue.

Dan said that this request is final with this committee. Therefore, it does not get a bill or resolution number assigned to it because it does not go on to City Council. Terri Allen attended via a phone call on Matt Hartline's phone.

Matt presented the staff notes to the committee. The IUOE Local 132 is redoing the parking lot, and they have to reposition the entrance and exists. In order to carry out their original request, the parking meters in front of IUOE Local 132 building need to be removed.

Matt and Dan went out into the field and based on the current situation; the city will not lose any meters. The City can simply shift the meters instead of forfeiting them altogether. That will be up to the committee to decide.

Chuck Barker, the Business Manager for the Operating Engineers, addressed the committee. Mr. Barker explained that the IUOE is trying to open up more parking on the west side. The parking lot will be open for everyone, all patrons of the local businesses. There are approximately 22 spots that will be made available. The local needs it primarily for its members, this number ranges from 5-10 individuals on a daily basis. Each month there is a union meeting held during the evening and approximately 50 individuals attend the monthly meeting.

Becky Ceperley mentioned that the committee was told at the last meeting they were going to lose 4 parking meters and asked what precipitated the change in the situation. Matt Hartline responded that after visiting the location and taking measurements and with the IUOE's driveway positions the city can keep the meters.

Chuck Barker preferred that the meters be removed.

MOTION AND VOTE: A motion was made to remove the meters in the 600 block of Tennessee Avenue. The motion did not pass, and the request was denied based on a unanimous vote of 0-5.

3. New Business

4. Discussion

Reducing the speed limit on Chesterfield Avenue from 30 MPH to 25 MPH from approximately 57th Street easterly to MacCorkle Ave SE.

Pam Burka presented this request to the committee. She has received complaints from her constituents of speeding and not heeding stop signs, so there is extra notification on the stop signs to remind people that the stops signs are there. From 57th Street travelling toward MacCorkle headed to Big Lots, it is very narrow, there is not even a center line or side lines painted on the road. The speed limit is currently 30 mph. Pam requested that it be reduced to 25 mph to make it safer. Pam Burka said she spoke to City Council Member Chad Robinson who represents part of the Kanawha City wards and he did not have a problem with it either.

Matt Hartline said that the road Pam referenced is 16' wide. That is why it is not striped. He acknowledged the speeding issue in that area. Matt also stated that any signs made by residents are inappropriate and should come down. Matt does not have an issue with lowering the speed limit.

MOTION AND VOTE: A motion was made to reduce the speed limit from 30 mph to 25 mph on Chesterfield Avenue from approximately 57th Street easterly to MacCorkle Avenue, SE. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by a vote of 5-0.

5. Approval of the Minutes of the October 23, 2023, meeting

MOTION AND VOTE: A motion was made by Becky Ceperley to approve the minutes of the October 23, 2023 meeting. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by a vote of 5-0.

Mary Beth mentioned that the next meeting is scheduled for December 25, 2023 and asked Dan if there were any critical issues that need to be dealt with during the month of December. Dan said there was nothing urgent at this point. The only matter was the digital sign ordinance if it comes out of the Planning Commission. Mary Beth told the Committee to expect an email from her either rescheduling or canceling the December meeting and the next meeting would be the one scheduled in January.

Jennifer Pharr mentioned that she had been approached by a resident of the city concerning Mitzi's, an establishment in the former Cornucopia. She had an issue with parking. Dan said the business owner had put the cart ahead of the horse in this matter and Planning has already been contacted. Planning told the business owner that there could be a problem with not having enough parking for the business and a parking variance would be required.

6. **Adjournment:** A motion was made by Becky Ceperley to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and approved by a unanimous vote.