



WHERE COMMUNITY AND SPIRIT MEET®

WORK SESSION MINUTES

A work session of the Kirkwood City Council was held on May 5, 2016, at 5:30 p.m. Present were Mayor Griffin, Council Members Duwe, Edman, Luetzow, Sears, and Ward. Also in attendance were Chief Administrative Officer Russell Hawes, Assistant Chief Administrative Officer Georgia Ragland and City Clerk Betty Montaño.

APPROVAL OF WORK SESSION MINUTES

Motion was made by Council Member Sears and seconded by Council Member Luetzow to approve the meeting minutes of April 21, 2016. The minutes were unanimously approved.

DEPUTY MAYOR AND BOARD AND COMMISSION LIAISONS

Mayor Griffin recommended Council Member Ward to serve as Deputy Mayor. The council was in agreement. Mayor Griffin distributed a copy of his recommendations for Board and Commission Liaisons which he believes includes the desires of the council and the boards/commissions they desire to serve as liaison. The council agreed to the list. Resolutions will be prepared for the Deputy Mayor position and the Board and Commission Liaisons.

SOUTH GEYER TRAFFIC STUDY REPORT

Public Services Director Bensing was in attendance to present the report. Mr. Hawes provided background to the installation of stop signs on South Geyer Road which was supported by the City Council. South Geyer is both a residential street and an arterial road. Some of the issues Mr. Hawes presented are as follows:

- South Geyer Road is a concern because it is less than safe
- Does the road function the way it should
- Did the installation of the stop signs cause more difficulties that affect any of the benefits

Mr. Bensing presented the report and some of the issues provided are as follows:

- Background to issue
- Engineering estimated cost range for sidewalks \$269,000 - \$648,000
- Multi-Way Stop Sign Warrant study conducted found unwarranted based on MUTCD (federal guidelines) criteria
- 90-day trial period for two stop signs began on December 7, 2015
- Information on Pre/Post Stop Sign Traffic Data
- Stop signs had some effect on speed but not on detouring traffic
- 10-year review of traffic citations, crashes by year, accident history review
- Pro and Con public comments regarding the stop signs; however, both want safer roadway for pedestrians and motorists
- Police Department never able to verify traffic backing on railroad tracks on Big Bend
- Some possible alternatives:
 - Volume Reduction (not practical)
 - Speed Reduction (several possibilities)
 - Speed Tables

- Raised Intersections
 - Pavement Narrowing
- Pedestrian Safety (several possibilities)
 - Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon
 - High Visibility Flashing Sign
- Recommendation:
 - Remove Signs and Implement Other Options
 - Periodic Special Enforcement
 - Creation of a “Double Fine Zone”
 - Installation of radar speed signs
 - Pavement restriping
 - Engineering Concept Study
 - Implementation

Chief Plummer advised that in his opinion at the end of the analysis and looking at everything he recommends leaving one stop sign as the results show a reduction in speed with the installation of the stop signs.

Some of the issues discussed by the City Council are as follows:

- At the time the concerns were brought to the council it wasn't just a complaint about speeding and there weren't many options to consider
- Start saving money and get sidewalks on both sides of the street and continue to see how traffic can be controlled
- MUTCD deals with traffic and not necessarily the pedestrian issues
- Like striping to narrow road and putting it all on one side as recommended
- Consider plantings along roadway
- Remove one of the stop signs coupled with something else like striping and consider where would be the best placement for pedestrian crosswalk
- Volume of traffic on South Geyer Road hasn't increased since 1979
- If only one stop sign in place, the speed of traffic will likely increase again because the reduction in speed occurred between the stop signs

Mr. Hawes authorized the City Council to contact the appropriate staff if they have questions or need additional information on this topic. If the City Council decides to remove one or both stop signs advisory message boards will need to be placed in the area prior to the removal of the sign(s). If the City Council decides that it wants a stop sign or both stop signs to remain, legislation will need to be voted on by the council. Staff was commended on the information provided. No decision was made by the council regarding the issue.

The meeting was opened and adjourned

Betty Montaño, MMC/MPCC
City Clerk