

ASTORIA TRAFFIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Astoria City Hall

July 22, 2014

CALL TO ORDER:

President Nemlowill called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners Present: President Zetty Nemlowill, Vice President McLaren Innes, Thor Norgaard, Kent Easom, David Pearson, and Sean Fitzpatrick

Commissioners Excused: Peter Gimre

Staff Present: Community Development Director Brett Estes, Planner Rosemary Johnson, and City Engineer Jeff Harrington. The meeting is recorded and will be transcribed by ABC Transcription Services, Inc.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

President Nemlowill called for changes to the minutes of April 22, 2014.

Vice President Innes noted the minutes erroneously referred to her at times as President Innes and should be corrected.

Vice President Innes moved that the Traffic Safety Committee approve the minutes of April 22, 2014 with the following corrections: Page 1, Approval of Minutes, "Vice-President Innes called for corrections to the minutes ..." ; Motion seconded by Commissioner Fitzpatrick. Motion passed 5-0-1. Ayes: President Nemlowill, Vice President Innes, Commissioners Norgaard, Pearson, and Fitzpatrick. Nays: None. Abstentions: Commissioner Easom.

NEW BUSINESS:

Item 4(a): Updates on Various Transportation Projects – Jeff Harrington

Engineer Harrington updated the Traffic Safety Committee on the following transportation projects:

- The 2014 Paving Project was complete. He reminded that the Pavement Management Plan had gone to a two year plan, so this project was larger and the City has saved funds for two years. About 3,300 tons of asphalt was put down and the project cost about \$480,000. Final invoicing and accounting is currently being prepared to determine the balance of revenue. Remaining revenue and existing funds will be used for a crack/seal project planned for completion by October 15, 2014.
- The Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Crosswalk Project was funded by an ODOT grant. Work is anticipated to begin in August 2014. All crosswalks within ODOT roadways, mainly Marine Drive and Commercial, will be redone. The unsignalized crosswalks will have Continental style striping and the signalized crosswalks will be regular crosswalks. Once ODOT has completed its crosswalks, the City will begin redoing crosswalks on City streets to match the ODOT crosswalks.
- The Irving Avenue Bridge project is scheduled to begin the week of August 18, 2014. A Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page is available on the Public Works website and in the library.
- The striping crew has been notified that the paving project is complete and work should begin in late July or early August. The striping was originally scheduled for September to ensure that it did not conflict with the paving work.
- The Street Ends Project is in the early stages as the City is working on an intergovernmental agreement with ODOT. Design work should begin in 6 to 12 months, with work being completed in 2 to 2½ years. He noted that the work on six bridges have been funded through the ODOT Bridge Program, adding that the funds must be spent by the end of 2018.

- Cleanup work on the 11th Street CSO Project is still ongoing as the striping and arrows are being redone by the contractor. There will also be some street closures while manhole testing is completed.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS/COMMISSIONERS: No reports.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Drew Herzig, 628 Klaskanine Avenue, Astoria, said he received an email from a constituent about traffic safety on the south slope of 5th Street. Traffic was speeding past the man's residence on the way to South Street. He forwarded the email to Director Estes, who will have Staff look into the issue. He just wanted to remind the Traffic Safety Committee that people regularly have traffic safety concerns. He displayed an image of a solar powered speed indicator on West Klaskanine, which begins to flash when a driver exceeds the speed limit. The sign never fades into the background because it is always doing something different. He believed the sign was very effective and wanted to see more of them around Astoria. The sign would be effective in a few places along 7th Street heading south and on 16th Street heading north from the college. After implementation of the Riverfront Vision Plan is complete, he wanted the Traffic Safety Committee to be more proactive and look for ways to make Astoria safer. Astoria has become a Healthy Eating Active Living (HEAL) City, which means more people will be encouraged to get out and walk. The City needs to make walking in town safe and he believes this was part of the Traffic Safety Committee's mission. The speed indicator signs are slim, freestanding, and they do not take up a lot of space. He finds them very effective. He did not want to wait another three or four months to speak to the Traffic Safety Committee again and hoped the Committee would think about his concerns in the mean time.

President Nemlowill asked how the speed indicator sign came to be installed in that location. Mr. Herzig said he was not sure. The sign is in the Coast Guard housing area near the bus stop.

Director Estes said the Coast Guard installed the sign.

President Nemlowill agreed that traffic safety is an important issue, noting that at the next Traffic Safety Committee meeting, the Committee would love to hear ideas on how to be more proactive. Mr. Herzig said he would keep bringing ideas to the Committee.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to convene the Planning Commission Meeting at 6:38 pm.

ATTEST:


Secretary

APPROVED:


Community Development Director/
Assistant City Manager