



TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Quality Services for a Quality Community

MEMBERS

Thomas Baumann, Chair
Kevin Beard
John Boyse
Erich Ditschman
Troy Fassbender
Syed Waqar Haider
Julie Rojewski
Steven Stapleton

City Council Liaison
Shanna Draheim

Staff Liaison
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MEETING MINUTES

February 4, 2019 - 6:00 P.M.

54-B District Courtroom 2

101 Linden Street

East Lansing, MI 48823

ROLL CALL:

Commissioners present:

Thomas Baumann, John Boyse, Erich Ditschman, Troy Fassbender, Syed Waqar Haider, Julie Rojewski, Steven Stapleton

Commissioners absent:

Kevin Beard

STAFF PRESENT:

Scott House (DPW Director) and Andrew Bisaha (Design Engineer)

ELECTION OF TEMPORARY TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION OFFICERS:

Rojewski nominated Baumann to continue as Chair. Haider seconded. There were no other nominations. Motion approved unanimously.

Rojewski nominated Beard to serve as Vice Chair. Boyse seconded. There were no other nominations. Motion approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Moved by Ditschman. Haider seconded. Agenda approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – AUGUST 6, 2018:

Minutes approved unanimously, with one amendment.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Request from the City Manager to review the electric scooter ordinance.

COMMENTS FROM CITY COUNCIL LIAISON TO THE COMMISSION:

Draheim was not present to provide initial comments. Council liaison arrived during the Business Agenda, Point #9, *Discussion of the Skymint Development Traffic Study*.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA TOPICS:

None from the audience. Haider expressed concerns over the lack of visitor parking in the Hawks Nest development and visitor parking permitting in general. Haider is also concerned about the traffic increase in northern areas of the city (Lake Lansing Road, Coolidge Road, Coleman Road, State Road) over the past five years. House responded that Coleman Road is proposed to be extended west to Wood Road and signal

improvements are proposed as well (Coolidge Road at both Coleman Road and State Road).

BUSINESS AGENDA

DISCUSSION AND NOMINATION FOR THE AGE-FRIENDLY COMMITTEE

Numerous commissioners expressed an interest in servicing as the Transportation Commission's delegate on the Age-Friendly Committee but the AFC has been meeting at 8:30am on weekdays, at which time no Commissioners are available. Baumann will reach out to the AFC and see if their meeting times are flexible.

DISCUSSION OF THE SKYMINT DEVELOPMENT TRAFFIC IMPACT STUDY

House confirmed again that signal improvements are proposed at the intersection of Coleman Road and Coolidge Road. Stapleton pointed out that the traffic impact of the proposed project is expected to be quite small although medical marijuana dispensary traffic impact data is very limited in sample size and is based on recreational dispensaries, in contrast to the medical dispensary proposed in the Skymint Development. Fassbender agreed that there are traffic problems in the area but the proposed development would have minimal effect. Ditschman moved to recommend that council address the sidewalk gaps along both Coolidge Road and West Road, as part of the Skymint Development. Haider seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF CITY SCOOTER ORDINANCE

Discussion touched on a variety of topics including:

- History of rental scooters locally
- Fee structure (per year, day, ride, mile, etc)
- Cooperation efforts with MSU and Lansing to develop collaborative policies
- Who is using scooters and when
- Definition and classification of the scooters
- Statewide restrictions for scooters
- Removing scooters from use by 11pm nightly
- Keeping scooters out of use overnight until a reasonable time (4am-6am, TBD)
- Weather conditions when scooters should be unavailable
- Appropriateness of requiring winter removal based on calendar dates rather than weather conditions
- Appropriateness of electric scooters traveling on streets, pathways and/or sidewalks
- Difficulty (or infeasibility) of banning scooters from sidewalks
- Conditions which could make scooter sidewalk use safer
- Banning scooters on Grand River Avenue sidewalks only
- General, standard "rules of the road" for scooter users
- Parking guidelines and policies, including use of bicycle racks
- Maximum speed of scooters in DDA area
- Maximum speed of scooters elsewhere
- Matching the maximum speed to the areas (streets / sidewalks) allowed for use
- Effects of the new city income tax on scooter employees
- Possible ramifications of individuals or groups owning their own scooters

Baumann agreed to summarize the key points of the discussion and communicate those points to city council via email.

STAFF UPDATE

House restated that engineering continues on Coolidge Road signal improvements and the western extension of Coleman Road, as mentioned earlier in this meeting. Clinton County Road Commission staff is working on the Coleman Road extension. City staff is working on the Coolidge Road improvements as well as signal optimization on Lake Lansing Road, south Harrison Road rehab, Michigan Avenue sewer replacement and local streets projects. Ingham County Drain Commissioner staff is working on Montgomery Drain.

DISCUSSION OF THE RESIDENT PERMIT PARKING DRAFT ORDINANCE

Draheim provided the background information of the RPP ordinance. There are currently three East Lansing neighborhoods with RPPs: Bailey, Chesterfield Hills and Red Cedar. The council is trying to simplify and standardize the process to create a new RPP and also to retain the current RPPs. Essentially each subdivision south of Saginaw Highway is now a, “basic permit area” allowing two-hour parking for everyone, with extended street parking permits available to residents for their contractors, visitors, etc.

DISCUSSION OF BIKE FRIENDLY SUBCOMMITTEE

Baumann, Boyse and Ditschman volunteered to represent the Transportation Commission in the Bike Friendly Subcommittee. Ditschman moved to confirm their appointments. Rojewski seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

DISCUSSION OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND SCHEDULE

Baumann expressed an interest in having visitors (MDOT, ELPD, PACE, CATA, Planning Commission, etc) at regular meetings when the agenda is otherwise substantial enough to warrant a meeting but not already full, as to not make meetings too long. Baumann will welcome visitor recommendations from commission members via email.

COMMISSION MEMBER CONCERNS

- Boyse expressed concerns that sandbags on traffic barricades are either missing or not maintained. Leaking and missing sandbags expose the sharp edges of the angle iron foundations. He also believes the temporary pedestrian crossing at The Peoples Church is unsafe.
- Stapleton believes that the city’s policies on overnight parking should be revisited.

ITEMS FOR THE FEBRUARY 25, 2019 MEETING

- Resident Permit Parking Draft Ordinance
- Setting agenda items for remainder of the year
- Safe Routes to School Major Infrastructure Grant Application

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

THOMAS BAUMANN, CHAIR

ANDREW BISAHA, SECRETARY