

Meeting of the Streets, Alleys and Traffic Committee of the City of La Salle
December 28, 2020
Immediately Following the Finance Committee Meeting - City Hall Council Chambers
and Via Web Ex Conference Call

Note: Due to the increases in Covid-19 cases in our area, the City Council, Department Heads and the Public had the option to attend the meeting in person at City Hall or by remote participation through the WebEx platform.

Chairman Bacidore called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

Present- Alderman Bacidore, Alderman Ptak, Alderman Reynolds, Alderman Lavieri, Alderman Jeppson, Alderman Herndon, Alderman Crane

Present Remotely-Alderman Demes, Deputy Clerk Brent Bader

Absent- None

Others Present- City Clerk Carrie Brown, Attorney Jim McPhedran, City Engineer Brian Brown, Chief Andy Bacidore

A quorum was present.

It was moved by Alderman Reynolds and seconded by Alderman Ptak to approve and place on file the minutes of the Streets, Alleys, and Traffic Committee for November 2, 2020. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Voice vote, all ayes. Motion carried.

In regard to the petition from Brian Bergeron for a “No Trucks Allowed” Road sign on Fourth Street near Central, brief discussion followed. Mr. Bergeron was not present.

Alderman Crane said he believes the issue could be a result of trucks who come off the interstate heading to Conway Freight and end up in town. They realize they need to go the other direction and try to circle around the block. Once they get to Central they are stuck and have to back up. He suggested putting signs off Route 6 on Buck and maybe Union Streets so they do not turn in.

Chairman Bacidore wondered how often this is happening. Alderman Bacidore said if a semi were to come down Union Street and turn onto Fourth, it is clear there is no exit. He said at the least they could turn up Buck Street to return to Route 6. Alderman Bacidore said he does not think we need a sign.

A vote was taken in regard to placing a “No Trucks Allowed” sign on Fourth Street near Central Street.

ROLL CALL: Ayes: Crane

Nays: Alderman Jeppson, Ptak, Herndon, Reynolds, Lavieri

Abstain: None

1-5

After the vote, further discussion began with some interest being shown in placing signs on Route 6 near Buck and Union Streets as suggested earlier by Alderman Crane.

Attorney McPhedran agreed with Alderman Crane's assessment that if signs were to be put up, they would need to go on both Buck and Union Streets because if a truck reaches Central they have no choice other than going up the street. It would not be possible to back up.

Alderman Herndon also agreed with Alderman Crane that maybe signs would be a good idea in those locations. Chairman Bacidore asked if the committee wanted to vote again or leave it as is. The committee discussed the placement of these signs if they were to be approved. Alderman Bacidore said he did not think there was a place to put signs on Fifth Street (Rt. 6). Alderman Herndon then suggested that we wait and see if further issues arise or if this becomes an on-going issue. Therefore, it will be the recommendation of the committee not to erect any type of signage at this time.

Moving on to the request from Lynn, Jim and Keegan Jakse for a street light across from 2084 Rockwell Road, it was determined there would be a \$7.00 per kilowatt charge to the city each month, as well as the cost of the lighting package itself. There is a pole already in the location. City Engineer Brian Brown estimated the LED light package to cost approximately \$700. Several aldermen indicated that they drove out to the location and agreed it is very dark. The petitioners were present and acknowledged that they understand the LED lights are very bright. With the pole being on the other side of the road, they were not concerned about this. Chairman Bacidore then took a roll call in regard to installing a street light across from 2084 Rockwell Road.

ROLL CALL:

Ayes: Alderman Ptak, Alderman Herndon, Alderman Reynolds, Alderman Lavieri, Alderman Crane, Alderman Jeppson, Chairman Bacidore

Nays: None

Motion carried.

7-0

In regard to the request from Tammie Treadway to convert the intersection at 24th Street and St. Vincent Avenue from a two-way stop to a four-way stop, a photo of the intersection and specifically the signage for the Paramount Club located at the northwest corner of 24th Street and St. Vincent Avenue was projected on- screen for reference. The petitioner was not present.

City Engineer Brian Brown indicated that in order for an intersection to be converted on a state highway, IDOT has to perform a warrant analysis which is generated by traffic volume and the types of accidents at the location. Mr. Brown said the type of accidents occurring in the intersection mainly involve eastbound vehicles edging out onto St. Vincent and then abruptly stopping which leads to rear end accidents. Mr. Brown said the accidents are not really occurring in the intersection, therefore a signal or stop signs would not be warranted as already indicated by IDOT. Mr. Brown continued by saying that what it may indicate are sight distance issues. In his assessment, the signage at the Paramount Club may be causing some of these issues and he understood why the petitioner would request some type of remedy at this location. Mr. Brown then referenced the photo of the Paramount Club's sign which now includes a 4' x 4' piece of plywood and a carry-out sign that have been added to the original sign for the business. In addition there is a small billboard sign on the fence to the north of the intersection. There is a 2 ft. gap between the pole and the foundation, so if the added signs were removed and trees cleaned up, the sight distance would be increased where you could see a car coming from the north more easily. Mr. Brown stated that the additional signage was never permitted. He said just because you have one permitted sign, does not give permission to add to the sign without additional approval and permits from the city. Chief Andy Bacidore stated that he would be willing to speak to Harold Witek

the owner of the Paramount Club about the signs. Attorney McPhedran stated that before taking any action in requiring the signs to be removed, it would be best if someone spoke to Mr. Witek.

Mr. Brown said, if this was a warranted intersection, which it is not, it would be a signalized intersection anyway. Stop signs are not used as a rule on state routes unless they are rural.

The aldermen acknowledged there have been no major accidents in this location since 2006 that they recall.

City Engineer Brown said it is not an ideal intersection, but it does not meet the requirements to make it a signalized intersection. Attorney McPhedran confirmed that IDOT has made the determination that it is not a dangerous intersection and does not warrant a traffic control device. Alderman Lavieri asked if we can override that. City Engineer Brown said we could, but they would not allow us to put a stop sign there and it would be 100% of the city's expense to install signals.

It was moved by Alderman Ptak and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to deny the request from Tammie Treadway to convert the intersection at 24th Street and St. Vincent Avenue from a two-way to a four-way stop. Each and every alderman has a copy.

Ayes: Alderman Ptak, Alderman Herndon, Alderman Reynolds, Alderman Lavieri, Alderman Crane, Alderman Jeppson, Chairman Bacidore

Nays: None

Motion carried.

7-0

It was moved by Alderman Herndon and seconded by Alderman Reynolds to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 p.m.



Carrie Brown, City Clerk