

URBANA TRAFFIC COMMISSION
Tuesday, September 1, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mike Bily, Chief of Police
Joe Smith, Senior Civil Engineer

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dennis Roberts, City Council Member

OTHERS PRESENT:

Stephen Cospers, 1502 South Montgomery Street
Greg Mills, Champaign County Sheriff's Office

The meeting began at 4:05 p.m.

Additions to the agenda:

There were no additions to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes:

Joe Smith moved to approve the minutes as read. Mike Bily seconded the motion. The Commission voted 2-0 to approve the minutes of the August 2009 meeting.

Unfinished Business

Item #1- Discussion of parking near alleys in Savannah Green subdivision.

Stephen Cospers introduced himself as the President of the Savannah Green Homeowners' Association. He stated that the association had no input on the names for the alleys in the subdivision, but that they had no objections to the names.

Joe Smith said that the names were to be approved by the homeowners' association. He suggested that the association submit a document stating that the association supports the names of the alleys.

Mr. Cospers asked who usually decides upon the names of alley.

Mr. Smith said that the City doesn't have any preferences, but they make sure that names are not duplicated.

Mr. Cospers explained his concern about cars parking near the alleys running east to west between the 1400 and 1500 blocks of Florida Avenue and Michigan Avenue. He stated that cars overhang the alleys making it difficult to see traffic when pulling out of the alleys. He added

that it was particularly difficult to see bicyclists and motorized toy vehicles. He asked the Traffic Commission to consider eliminating parking from here to corner at the alleys.

Joe Smith moved to eliminate parking near the alleys. He added that this would be on the east side of Smith Road, Ogelthorpe Avenue, Montgomery Street and Abercorn Street.

Mike Bily seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 2-0.

This item will go to Council for consideration.

Joe Smith said that the signage would read, "No Parking from Here to Alley," and be installed around mid-September.

Mike Bily said that Parking Enforcement would begin enforcement after the signage was installed.

Item #2- Discussion of the removal of a taxi stand at 101 East Main Street.

Joe Smith said that upon further review of the concern he understood that the Champaign County Sheriff's Office made the request to eliminate the taxi stand to eliminate parking in an area that was not easily monitored for security.

Greg Mills from the Sheriff's Office stated that the Sheriff's Office did not have any preference as to whether or not the taxi stand remained.

Mike Bily moved that no action be taken.

Joe Smith seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 2-0.

New Business

Item #3- Discussion of the installation of signage on North Lincoln Avenue to restrict semi truck traffic.

Joe Smith explained that when the bridge was constructed on North Lincoln Avenue, signs restricting truck traffic were removed and never replaced. He said that the road maintained by Somer Township was too small for heavy truck traffic.

Joe Smith moved to install the signage prohibiting semi truck traffic on Lincoln Avenue, north and east of 3301 North Lincoln Avenue.

Mike Bily clarified that a semi truck would be any vehicle that is pulling a trailer.

Joe Smith stated that he would work with the Somer Township Traffic Commissioner to place the signs in an appropriate location.

Mike Bily seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 2-0.

This item does not require Council approval.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

The next meeting will be held October 6, 2009 at 4:00 p.m. at the Urbana City Building, 400 South Vine Street, second floor conference room.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Stiehl
Recording Secretary