

**Traffic Committee
MINUTES
January 10, 2018**

Committee Members

Present:

Chair Susan Ruinen, Bob Ferrell, Frank Berry, Major Matt Davis, Rosemary Wilson, Jim Wigglesworth, Jeff McNesby, Mark Churchill, Jerry Teal, Parks and Sanitation Director Dan Walker

Attending:

Town Administrator Britt Poole, Chief Terrence Green, Training Sergeant Rick Hazewinkel

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 AM in the Third-Floor Conference Room by Chair Susan Ruinen.

November Minutes:

Chair Ruinen asked if there were any corrections or comments regarding the November 8, 2017 minutes. Rosemary Wilson made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Bob Ferrell seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

County Update:

Jeff McNesby reported the County met with municipalities about drainage improvements through adding a utility fee. Chair Ruinen asked if this was similar to a tax added on for road improvements. Mr. McNesby responded it is a fee added onto water and sewer and is done for two reasons; to address water quality and drainage issues. This could be a funding source. Director Dan Walker added this is something City of Columbia currently has in place.

Town Administrator Poole added it is a utility fee added on to property taxes for those that do not have water and sewer. Jim Wigglesworth asked who currently cleans drains in the Town. Administrator Poole responded it can depend sometimes utility providers sometimes it is the Town.

Chair Ruinen asked if Library Hill Road is County maintained because there is a large pot hole when leaving the library that she has hit several times that needs attention. Mr. McNesby responded it does belong to the County and that he will put in a work order for this location.

Insync Signals:

Town Administrator Britt Poole reported the signal project will go to bid in March for three or four locations. We are awaiting final right of way acquisition and currently cooperation from the properties is not an issue but it will not go to bid until all acquired right of way has been completed per SCDOT regulations.

Rosemary Wilson asked around what area does phase 2 start and end. Mr. Poole responded phase 2 runs from around Target to Publix and then Cedarcrest Drive.

Administrator Poole added Phase 3 will add 10 signals through Lexington Medical Center. The hospital has selected an engineering firm to work with. This project will go much quicker as it completely funded by the hospital so there are less constraints with SCDOT. Chair Ruinen added they will still have to follow SCDOT rules for road right of way acquisition. SCDOT will not take the road right of way until acquisition is finished.

Administrator Poole added the Towns goal is to maintain 100 signals because the bigger the system the more efficient the signals will become as growth continues.

Vision Plan:

Administrator Poole stated there is not much to report at the Icehouse Amphitheatre during the winter months. There will be a chili cookoff in January and the Mayor will deliver the State of the Town address at the February Council Meeting.

**Crosswalk at
Old Chapin Rd:**

There is no new status to report on this project.

Hospitality Projects

One Way Pairs:

Administrator Poole reported that the entrance to Town Hall is complete in the existing road right of way and that construction continues to progress along West Main and Church Street.

Harmon Street:

Town Administrator Poole stated we are currently working on some final design aspects and may start acquiring right of way when we can, that would be a council agenda item when the time comes.

Gateway at Corley Mill:

Administrator Poole stated Corley Mill is 10% in design and is probably two years away but that is on the projected schedule path. He added the Town has met with Southeastern Freight as they are an important business off of Davega Drive where the bridge ties in so they are being kept up to date and been good to work with through this process.

Chair Ruinen asked if there will be a public meeting about the changes specifically on Davega Drive. Mr. Poole advised that when the project gets further along there will be public information meetings.

Sidewalks:

US 1 and Church Street: Administrator Poole reported both sidewalks opened but at a cost of \$1.2 million. He added they talked with SCDOT about the concern over cost and they have suggested maybe reducing the scope and negotiating with the contractor. Mr. Poole added that worst case scenario they could suggest restarting the bid process but right now negotiating continues.

**Local Transportation
Improvement Plan:**

Administrator Poole reported there is a land planning section to this project Council has authorized a study to be conducted that will help in seeing the needs and overall comprehensive plan of this area. Chair Ruinen asked if that particular study will go into the ranking the committee had previously discussed. Administrator Poole responded it would be used in conjunction with the rankings but could always be included if the need arises.

Administrator Poole added the Chick-fil-a at Sunset Boulevard is looking to demo and rebuild which will include improving that intersection by adding a decel lane.

Mr. Jim Wigglesworth added that at the previous Traffic Committee meeting Chief Green mentioned traffic issues at Lowes Food and Sunset Boulevard left turn in and wanted to make note for this to be added to the next committee meeting agenda.

Rosemary Wilson asked when the Lidl grocery store is expected to be open in that area. Administrator Poole responded that the Town did shut them down on daytime lane closures which had caused many traffic concerns recently. They have also run into some inclement weather so they may not open until sometime in March.

Chair Ruinen asked if everyone had gotten the email about committee member Larry Yon passing away and how he was a very long time and vital member to the committee that will be missed.

Director Dan Walker added that Virginia Hylton had recently passed in December a large advocate for parks in the area.

Chair Ruinen also reported that Co-Chair of the traffic committee Clyde Smith has been diagnosed with cancer so to keep him in our thoughts and that she was advised contacting him via email is probably the best route as it may be difficult for him to speak after his procedure.

Meeting Time: Chair Ruinen stated she wanted to bring forth and get the traffic committees response to holding meetings quarterly or every other month.

She added many other committees do not meet monthly and if any issues arise additional meeting times can always be scheduled.

Bob Ferrell suggested meeting every other month first and see how that goes.

The committee agreed and it was determined to meet every other month.

The next Traffic Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at 8:00 AM in the Third Floor Conference Room at the Lexington Municipal Complex, 111 Maiden Lane, Lexington, SC.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Rosemary Wilson and seconded by Bob Ferrell. The meeting adjourned at 8:53 AM.

Respectfully submitted by Laura Haney,

Approved By:

Susan Ruinen, Chair

FOIA COMPLIANCE – Public notification of this meeting was posted in compliance with the Freedom of Information Act and the Town of Lexington requirements.