

Traffic Committee
MINUTES
July 22, 2014

Committee Members

Present:

Chairman Susan Ruinen, Vice-Chair Clyde Smith, Secretary Karen Hanner, Bob Ferrell, Larry Yon, Town Engineer Rosemarie Nuzzo, Parks, Streets and Sanitation Director Dan Walker and Planning Commission Vice-Chairman Frank Berry

Attending:

Town Administrator Britt Poole, Major Jay Koon, Corporal Cameron Mortenson, Planning, Building and Zoning Director John Hanson, Town Attorney Brad Cunningham, Councilmember Ron Williams

Call to Order:

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

June Minutes:

Chairman Ruinen asked if there were any corrections or comments regarding the June 2014 minutes. Vice-Chair Clyde Smith made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Larry Yon seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

Downtown:

Chairman Ruinen asked the committee to consider the Downtown item on the agenda at this time. There was no objection.

Town Administrator Britt Poole said he expected the RFP would be ready in the next six months to study the medians, the bump outs and traffic flow on the 100 block of Main Street. He stated a study would be needed in eighteen months to assess the impact of the Adaptive Signals and the opening of new schools on traffic patterns. The Town Traffic Plan will need to be updated and a study of the downtown area will be included in the larger study at a later time to allow for the adjustment and new traffic patterns to establish.

Mr. Poole reported on the Retreat attended by staff and Council before the MASC Conference where they reviewed the Town's Vision Plan and explored plans for the next two years. Part of that discussion involved a look at the traffic on Main Street and a possible alternate route to West Lexington.

Relocation Corley Mill Rd:

Town Administrator Britt Poole said there has been no progress on the project. Chair Ruinen commented that the improvement of this intersection was not included on the list of projects for the Penny Tax. Mr. Poole stated that larger projects like this one are being considered for a future round of Penny Tax projects. The improvements on US 378 have helped traffic flow at this intersection but problems still

exist. Chair Ruinen added the Adaptive Signals along with I-20 ramp improvements could improve traffic flow at this intersection. Additional development on Corley Mill Road will increase pressure for adding improvements. Mr. Poole suggested taking this item off of the agenda at this time.

Phase 1: Town Administrator Britt Poole reported the Phase 1 project is completed. The Town is working on obtaining permits to add beautification to the intersections. The let has been done for the sidewalks on Park Road and that project is expected to begin in August. Mr. Cunningham asked how far the sidewalk project extended. Mr. Walker said he believed it went down to the Martin's Grove subdivision. He added SCDOT has completed the engineering. Mr. Poole stated Wes Crosby is working on that project and can provide a copy of the plans for the next committee meeting.

InSync Signal: Chair Ruinen stated SCDOT is working on a review of the designs. Britt Poole added the project looked on track for a let in October. Chair Ruinen commented that there may be right of way issues in some areas. Mr. Poole agreed that there could be an issue at the Mineral Springs, Powell and Palmetto Park intersections.

Vision Plan: Britt Poole stated that the 14 Mile Creek Trail is not officially open but it is being used. The Corps of Engineers approved the kiosks and signage. Dan Walker reported the installation of two emergency call boxes on the trail. Mr. Poole stated the Mayor and Council held a discussion at their recent retreat to consider extending the walking trail along the power line right of way to connect with the sidewalk next to the Publix shopping center creating a loop. They are working to acquire the Old Cherokee Road roadbed from before the intersection improvements were done for use as parking. A grand opening of the trail is expected to be held in September.

Resurfacing: Dan Walker reported the completion of this project. Susan Ruinen stated there was still a problem in Woodcreek.

Park Rd at Willowbrooke: Frank Berry commented that he had driven past Willowbrooke on Park Road recently and noticed some brush clearing had been done along the right of way that has improved visibility. Susan Ruinen add that the construction of the sidewalk along Park Road would also help.

Crosswalk at Old Chapin Rd: Dan Walker stated that the property owners at the apartment complex had been contacted and are working to obtain financial support for construction of a sidewalk to connect to the existing sidewalk and right of way.

Penny Tax Projects: A list of the projects that will be on the Penny Tax ballot will be distributed at the next Traffic Committee meeting. Britt Poole commented that there was a large turnout at the Lexington County Council meeting for the vote.

Fort Street: Britt Poole stated that Lexington County is working on this issue.

Downtown: Chair Ruinen stated any data collected now on turning movements would be invalid after the Insync program is initiated. Britt Poole reported the Irene Tyson is compiling information from the retreat which included ideas about Main Street. Clyde Smith asked about parking on Main Street. Mr. Poole reported the plans for the Icehouse Project include some parking areas.

Bob Ferrell made a motion that the Traffic Committee make a recommendation to Council to delay the study of the 100 block of Main Street and combine it with the broader traffic study to be done later. Larry Yon seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed.

George St at W Main: Clyde Smith reported that the Lexington County annex building parking lot has closed off the cut through to the signal at Park Road making it very difficult to turn left from George Street. Susan Ruinen asked Chief Green to monitor accidents at the intersection for the next six months.

North Lake & Roundknob: Susan Ruinen commented that this intersection will be reconsidered in the fall after the start of school.

Chair Ruinen asked if there were any other comments or an objection to deferring meeting for the month of August. There was no objection. Britt Poole commented that the new Town Traffic Engineer will be hired and a new department will be created to take over the Town's streets and the operations for the Insync system.

The Traffic Committee will not meet in August. The next Traffic Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 16, 2014, at 8:00 AM in the Third Floor Conference Room at the Lexington Municipal Complex, 111 Maiden Lane, Lexington, SC.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Bob Ferrell and second by Larry Yon with unanimous approval.

Respectfully submitted by Karen Hanner,

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.