

Public Safety Committee Meeting April 3, 2018

The Public Safety Committee met Tuesday, April 3, 2018, at 6:00 pm in the City Hall Conference Room, 17 S 8th. Present were Committee Chairperson Brant Kassner and Committee Members John Uden, Jeff Erlenbusch and Ken Gardner. Also present were: Mayor John Hollowell, Deputy City Clerk/Recorder Linda Wilkins, Police Chief Doug Colombik, Animal Control/Code Enforcement Officer Mark Winkley, Lincoln School Principal John Gorton, Garfield School Principal Josh Patterson, Highland Park/Jefferson School Principal Sara Lucero.

Chairperson Kassner called the meeting to order.

1. Request of Citizens

None

2. Committee Member Comments

None

3. Discuss & Recommend: Drop off routes for children at school areas

***Committee Member Erlenbusch moved to discuss and recommend drop off routes for children at schools, and seconded by Committee Member Gardner.*

- Principal Gorton discussed his safety concerns with pickup and drop off of children at Lincoln School. The area surrounding the school has small streets and becomes quite congested with traffic during pickup and drop off times. He feels fortunate not to have had any critical accidents, but has had some close calls. He suggested possibly removing some boulevards to allow a wider area for parking. Also possibly turning streets to one-way to relieve congestion in the streets.
- Principal Patterson discussed similar issues at Garfield School. He finds parents picking up children in areas designated for bus parking. There is no parking in the area around the school. There have been complaints from a citizen and; unfortunately, there has been an accident involving injury to a child last year by being ran over by a car. He thought the placing of temporary speed bumps during school drop off and pickup times would help to slow traffic and also thought one-way streets around the school would work well.
- Principal Lucero stated there are no problems at Jefferson School and believes this is due to the small size of the school. Highland Park School is her area of concern. The school has implemented a new pickup procedure which appears to be working well. However, streets are narrow which creates issues. She also liked the idea of one-way streets in the area of the school and removing boulevards. She believes the lack of space poses a huge danger to the children and the ability for emergency staff to respond to an emergency.
- There was discussion regarding placing four-way stops at all intersections surrounding schools, restricting parking to one side of a street, removing boulevards, checking into an easement the City may possess on Roosevelt Street to relieve parking congestion at Garfield School, more officers patrolling in school areas, checking into the COPS program to see if they could help during

school times, using community service individuals as crossing guards, the positioning of crosswalks, and other ways to alleviate the traffic problems in school areas.

- Mayor Hollowell will meet with Public Works Director Gray and Police Chief Colombik to work on a plan for increasing traffic safety in school areas.
- Chief Colombik will get with Director Gray and Officer Winkley to help develop a strategy for school traffic

***Committee Member Uden moved to postpone, seconded by Committee Member Erlenbusch and passed unanimously 4-0.*

4. Discuss & Recommend: Boats & campers setting on streets

***Committee Chairperson Kassner moved to discuss, and seconded by Committee Member Erlenbusch.*

- Officer Winkley stated that during the time of snow removal around the city he had received 65 parking complaints, issued 9 citations and had 4 vehicles towed off the streets.
- Committee Members thanked Officer Winkley and commended him on the good work on keeping the streets clear.
- Chairperson Kassner suggested placing an article in the Star as a public notice of the city ordinance requirements regarding parking RV's and campers on the street, also on the radio and website.
- Chairperson Erlenbusch suggested increasing the fines higher more quickly. He thought this would help get the vehicles off the street.

***Committee Member Uden moved to put this item on the next Public Safety Committee agenda, seconded by Committee Member Erlenbusch and passed unanimously, 4-0*

5. Adjournment

***Committee Member Uden moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Committee Member Erlenbusch and passed unanimously, 4-0.*

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:



Brant Kassner, Chairperson



Linda Wilkins, Recorder