

## NEW BERLIN SAFETY COMMISSION MINUTES

Wednesday June 8th, 2011 6:00 pm

New Berlin Public Safety Building

16300 W. National Ave.

**Call to Order:** Declaration of a quorum.

**Present:** Paul Rozek, Chuck Trevorow, Paul Milkovich, Paul Repischak, Tamara Simonson, Deena Liska, and Brian Graziano. The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm.

**Excused:** Fred Witty and Earl Strandt

**Approval of Minutes:** Chuck Trevorow made a motion to approve the May 2011 minutes as read. The motion was seconded by Paul Milkovich and carried with 6 voting in favor and Deena Liska voting "present."

### NEW BUSINESS:

05 11 01 Request to replace the "Stop" sign at Beeheim Road and Swartz Road with a "Yield" sign.

Alderman Ament sent the Safety Commission an email regarding complaints he has received from constituents residing in the area of Beeheim and Swartz roads who claim the "Stop" sign for eastbound Beeheim at Swartz Rd. is unnecessary and violated by motorists on routine basis. These complainants would like to see the traffic control changed to a "Yield" sign.

Two citizen's from the area spoke on this matter. They reiterated the above sentiment of how the "Stop" sign is unnecessary for the amount of traffic and the flow of traffic. They expressed concern that they or others from the area will be stopped and cited by the police for "rolling" a stop sign that really doesn't need to be there.

Tammy Simonson presented the traffic data she collected from the area relevant to this issue. The Stop/ Yield Control Guidelines (based on safety history) dictated that the intersection have no control. The Stop/ Yield Control Guidelines (based on traffic volumes) showed that traffic control *may* be needed. Simonson further reported that visibility at the intersection due to the terrain adds to the need for traffic control. Simonson reported that there has been only one accident in the past several years at this intersection.

Safety Commission members discussed this matter and were of the opinion that based on the traffic data and history (and barring any showing of overwhelming support to change the traffic control) there wasn't a need to change it. The citizens in attendance claimed there was overwhelming support to change the traffic control. They said they could get as many signatures needed on a petition to show the support. We advised them that we would table this item and inform Alderman Ament of their desire to want get a petition going. Chuck Trevorow made a

motion to table it. The motion was seconded by Deena Liska and carried unanimously. Paul Repischak will be sending Alderman Ament an email informing him of the follow-up requested by the citizens in attendance.

05 11 04

Speeding vehicles and stop sign violations on the driveway to the recycling center (Casper Dr. and Top-O-Hill Dr).

Chuck Trevorow reported that he and his workers observe vehicles traveling at unsafe speeds and violating the stop sign along the driveway into the recycling center. When complaining to the police department he was made aware that our current ordinance does not allow for officers to take enforcement action on this “non park or parkway drive.” Trevorow researched the matter with the City Attorney and learned that a simple language change in ordinance #184-17 section D, could make state, county, and municipal traffic codes, directions, and regulations of traffic officers enforceable (thus allowing the police to take action). Trevorow asked that this be done and that the speed limit be made 15 mph along the driveway. He advised that there already is a “Stop” sign in place that can serve as the official “Stop” sign.

Paul Repischak made a motion that Deena Liska carry a “Request Action Statement” to the Common Council requesting the following:

1. Ordinance #184-17 section D. be changed from: “Traffic codes. Every person operating a vehicle of traffic or burden within the parks or parkway ...” to:  
“D. Traffic codes. Every person operating a vehicle of traffic or burden within city owned property...”
2. The Common Council authorize a 15 mph speed limit be posted along the recycling center driveway.

The motion was seconded by Paul Rozek and carried unanimously.

06 11 01

Dangerous Intersection at 162nd St. and Lincoln Ave.

For reasons not all that clear this has historically been a dangerous intersection (i.e. numerous serious injury accidents and at least (2) fatal accidents in the past ten years). The most common cause for these serious accidents has been vehicles failing to stop at the “Stop” signs for north or southbound 162nd St. at Lincoln Ave. A number of suggestions were made by officers to possibly improve safety at the intersection such as:

- Flashing red light mounted on both “Stop” signs
- Larger “Stop” Signs (with flags on them)
- Rumble strips on 162nd St. north and south of Lincoln to alert traffic of the intersection (and the “Stop” sign)
- Warning signs on 162nd St. (i.e. “Stop Ahead,” or “Traffic on Lincoln Does Not

- Stop”)
- Warning signs on Lincoln Ave (i.e. “Dangerous Intersection Ahead”)

Tammy Simonson advised that 162nd wouldn't be getting re-done for a few years making rumble strips unlikely. She said she would research the costs of purchasing solar powered flashing red lights for the north and southbound stop signs.

Chuck Trevorrow advised that he would have a crew assess the current signage (at and around) the intersection and determine any improvements we can make immediately with the resources we have.

Deena Liska made a motion to table this item until members can report back on their follow-up. The motion was seconded by Chuck Trevorrow and carried unanimously.

### **Old Business:**

05 11 01      Parking problem on Swartz Road south of Racine Ave.

At the May 2011 meeting we voted to recommend a “No Parking Anytime” zone for both north and southbound Swartz Rd from Racine Ave up to 50 feet north of the driveway for 4150 S. Swartz Rd.

Deena Liska advised she will be carrying this matter to the Common Council on 06-14-11. The item will be held on the agenda until our next meeting.

05 11 02      Safety Commission Member Status.  
No update on who will fill the Fire Department and New Berlin Public Schools vacancies.

**Set Next Meeting Date:**      Wednesday July 13th, 2011 at 6:00 PM.

**ADJOURN**      Paul Milkovich made a motion to adjourn at 6:51 pm. The motion was seconded by Brian Graziano and carried unanimously.

**Lt. Paul Repischak**  
**Safety Commission Secretary**