

VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN
9446 Raymond Avenue Oak Lawn Illinois 60453
Village Hall Auditorium
TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
Thursday, April 1, 2021 #2021-1

I. ROLL CALL: Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.

A. Chairman Pro Tem: Norm Lupescu

B. Members:

Drew Butler	Ken Nork (7:44 p.m.)
John Cody (ABS)	Andy Skoundrianos
Laurentine Grady	Ted Sochacki
Norm Lupescu	

C. Staff: Donald E. McKenna, Building & Zoning Administrator
Dennis Skoda, Public Works Department
Ofc. Mark Hollingsworth, Oak Lawn Police Department
Deanne Adasiak, Recording Secretary

A motion was made by Member Sochacki to select Norm Lupescu as Chairman Pro Tem. The motion was seconded by Member Grady.

Voice vote: All in favor, aye; All opposed, none.

Motion carries.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by D. Adasiak

III. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:

A motion to approve the Meeting Minutes #2020-06– November 5, 2020 was made by Member Grady and was seconded by Member Butler.

Roll call: Sochacki, yes; Skoundrianos, yes; Lupescu, yes; Grady, yes; Butler, yes.

Motion to approve passes: 5-0-0.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

A.) TC-1282-SS-Request for Stop Sign and Crosswalk paint at 99th Street and 51st Avenue:

Mr. Don Melvin, 9840 S. 51st Avenue, Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

The petitioner expressed his concerns about cars speeding between Sward School to the east and Oak Lawn Middle School to the west. He stated that he sits in his garage, which serves as his man cave, and observes the speeding traffic, and he is concerned for the safety of the children who attend both Oak Lawn Hometown Middle School and Sward School and cross at the subject intersection. He also mentioned how crowded the nearby park is. The petitioner also stated that traffic on 99th Street is extremely heavy between 4:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., and that a

stop sign would be appropriate. According to the petitioner, he sometimes acts as a crossing guard to assist the children at that intersection. The petitioner reiterated his concerns about safety. He stated that at the very least, adding crosswalk paint to the street may help.

The petitioner stated that there is a sign that reads "End School Zone" at the east end of his property. He said that there is a sign on the opposite side that reads "School Zone Ahead." He stated that the entire area should be labeled as a School Zone. Member Lupescu agreed that there are a lot of kids in that area and that the cars drive pretty fast.

Mr. McKenna said typically a traffic study would occur at this point; he asked the petitioner if he is requesting a 2-way or 4-way stop sign. Mr. Skoda said it would have to be all-way stop signs. Member Lupescu asked if there is a stop sign on 51st Avenue. Mr. Skoda replied yes. Member Sochacki said a painted crosswalk would be more visible to drivers.

Member Lupescu asked the Board if they want to request a traffic count study. Mr. Skoda asked what a traffic study would provide; he said we all know 99th Street is a major thoroughfare and there is a lot of traffic between 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. He mentioned that the other stop signs in that area have a crossing guard but he knows that children are cutting through the park and end up at the subject intersection. Mr. Skoda expressed that striping the intersection is possible but then it has to be maintained and if we go that route we may need ADA corners which involve tearing out concrete and adding curbs which would be very costly to the Village.

Member Grady said since we are already aware of the traffic concerns she feels we should motion for a stop sign without the traffic study.

A motion was made by Member Grady to approve #TC-1282-SS – Request for all-way Stop Signs at 99th Street and 51st Avenue. The motion was seconded by Member Skoundrianos.

Roll call: Butler, yes; Grady, yes; Lupescu, yes; Skoundrianos, yes; Sochacki, yes.

Motion passes: 5-0-0.

B.) TC-1283-M-Request change from No Parking Signs to Limit 4 Hour Parking Signs on the south side of 93rd St. between Kostner and the east property line of OLCHS Athletic Complex:

Mr. Don McKenna, Village of Oak Lawn, 9446 Raymond Avenue, Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453

Mr. McKenna informed the Board that the current "No Parking" signs were installed when Advocate was building their last parking structure, and that the request is to change the signs to a 4-hour parking limit.

Member Lupescu expressed concern about children running around in that area. He made a remark about Christ Hospital employees parking on the street. Mr. McKenna reminded Member Lupescu of the four-hour time limit.

Member Butler emphasized the abundance of parking available to hospital employees. According to Mr. McKenna, this will benefit the baseball field and the parents and family members who attend baseball games. Member Butler agreed and said that Oak Lawn Baseball uses that field. Mr. Skoda mentioned that Oak Lawn High School also uses that baseball field.

Mr. Skoda reminded the Board that parking was available prior to the construction work at the hospital.

Member Lupescu asked if it would be advantageous to add the signs on the north side of the street. Mr. Skoda replied that the ground is already striped for a parking lane and there is a bump out at the east end of the block. He said adding signs on the north side would create a choked street if cars park on both sides of the street. Mr. Skoda reminded Member Lupescu that we are only discussing 12-16 parking spaces. Member Lupescu inquired as to whether the area will be policed once the signs are in place to ensure that the 4-hour parking limit is enforced. Officer Hollingsworth replied that will not likely happen as the Police Dept. does have the resources. He said we should anticipate at least 6-7 hospital employees parking in that area. Mr. Skoda agreed. Member Lupescu said he does not see the reason for the 4-hour restriction. Mr. McKenna said the restriction for the 4-hour parking is so the hospital employees do not park there.

A motion was made by Member Butler to approve 4 Hour Parking Signs on the south side of 93rd St. between Kostner and the east property line of OLCCHS Athletic Complex. The motion was seconded by Member Grady.

Roll call: Sochacki, yes; Skoundrianos, yes; Nork, yes; Lupescu, yes; Grady, yes; Butler, yes.

Motion passes: 6-0-0.

V. OTHER BUSINESS:

A.) Chairman: None

B.) Members: None

C.) Staff: None

VI. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN 2021:

A motion was made by Member Butler to elect Norm Lupescu as Chairman for 2021; the motion was seconded by Member Grady.

Roll call: Sochacki, yes; Skoundrianos, yes; Nork, yes; Lupescu, yes; Grady, yes; Butler, yes.

Motion passes: 6-0-0.

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Member Lupescu and was seconded by Member Grady.

Voice Vote: All in favor, aye.

Motion to adjourn passes.

The meeting ended at 7:49 p.m.