

**VILLAGE OF OAK LAWN**  
9446 Raymond Avenue Oak Lawn Illinois 60453  
Village Hall Auditorium  
**TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
Thursday, June 3, 2021 #2021-3

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

- A. Chairman:** Norm Lupescu
- B. Members:**

Drew Butler	Ken Nork
John Cody	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 ( <i>ABS</i> )
Deanne Adasiak, Recording Secretary

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Member Nork.

**III. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:**

*A motion to approve the Meeting Minutes #2021-2 May 6, 2021 was made by Member Grady and was seconded by Member Nork.*

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

Motion to approve passes: 7-0-0.

**IV. NEW BUSINESS:**

**A.) TC-1285-SS-Request for Stop Signs at Southwest Highway and Menard and Southwest Highway**

*Ms. Zofia Gorlicka, 9332 Massasoit Avenue, Oak Lawn, IL 60453*

The petitioner detailed her safety concerns, specifically the Southwest Highway safety crossing. She explained that it is four blocks to Central and that drivers on Southwest Highway do not stop. She mentioned that there is only zebra crossing on half of the street, not the entire road. When cars attempt to cross the street, the petitioner claims they do not see pedestrians. She stated that it is a major concern for her and other residents in the area. She stated that the senior population is unable to cross the street to get to the park. According to the petitioner, a crossing guard is not a good idea because they are only available during school hours or during school sessions. She mentioned that going to the park or the pool is a major issue. The petitioner stated that she does not feel a conventional stop sign will work, but that she would like to know if there is an alternative. Member Lupescu told the petitioner that he understands

her concerns. He informed the petitioner that she needed to go to the State of Illinois because the State is in charge of Southwest Highway and this falls under the jurisdiction of the State. He mentioned that the high school requested a stop light at the same corner three years ago, but it was denied by the state. He explained to the petitioner that because this is outside of the Village's jurisdiction, there is nothing the Village can do.

Member Grady stated that if a stop sign or a stop light were added at the corner, by the time a car notices a stop sign or light, they are gone; it is too close to Menard and she believes it could be a more dangerous situation. Member Grady inquired as to whether or not there had been any problems at that corner.

*Mr. Omar Yasim, 9413 Menard Avenue, Oak Lawn, Illinois 60453*

Mr. Yasim responded to Member Grady and said that there have been problems at that corner. He stated that there was an accident two weeks ago. He said there have been accidents at that intersection in the last 3-4 months. He stated that there is a blind spot when turning left from Menard.

Mr. Yasim stated that he understands the jurisdictional issue and that they will go to the State. He mentioned that the cars speeding down Menard are "flying" or driving very fast. Member Grady expressed that it is a dangerous area for both drivers and pedestrians in general.

Member Cody asked staff if the Village could give a recommendation to the State. Mr. Skoda reminded the Commissioners that the Village cannot do much; the petitioner will have to go through the same process but at a higher level. He stated that IDOT will have to review and consider various options/solutions. Mr. Skoda stated that the Village has no control over the speed or any of the State's restrictions. He said the Village maintains the highway by replacing signage or paving potholes. He mentioned the petitioner's comments about part of the crosswalk missing; he said that crosswalk has been missing since the Water Main project. Mr. Skoda explained that when the Contractor repaved that street after the project finished, they did not repaint the crosswalk. Mr. Skoda said he can look into it because it is a maintenance issue that the Village can handle but that the petitioner will have to go to IDOT and start the petition process.

Member Skoundrianos suggested that the petitioner contact a State representative who may be able to assist with the process.

Mr. Yasim asked if the petitioner can get a letter from the Village of Oak Lawn showing support of the petition request. Member Lupescu replied no. Member Cody suggested that the petitioner speak to her District Trustee. The petitioner replied that she spoke to her Trustee, Alex Olejniczak, and he said he would see if there was anything he could do to help her.

*A motion was made by Member Nork to deny #TC-1285-SS – Request for Stop Signs on Southwest Highway and Menard. The motion was seconded by Member Butler.*

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

Motion passes: 7-0-0.

**V. OTHER BUSINESS:**

A.) Chairman: None

B.) Members: None

C.) Staff: None

**VI. ADJOURNMENT:**

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

Voice Vote: All in favor, aye.

Motion to adjourn passes.

The meeting ended at 7:46 p.m.