

## **Warsaw Traffic Safety Commission**

Wednesday, July 11, 2018

1:00 p.m.

A scheduled meeting of the Warsaw Traffic Safety Commission was held Wednesday, July 11, 2018, at 1:00 p.m. at the Warsaw Police Department. **Voting members in attendance were Steve Foster, Captain Joel Beam, Jack Wilhite, Connie Fribley, Sergeant Lewis Fuller, Cindy Dobbins, and Jeremy Skinner.** Additionally, in attendance was Lasca Randels (Ink Free News). Ex-Officio members in attendance were Chief Scott Whitaker and Mayor Joseph Thallemer.

Steve Foster called the meeting to order.

### **ORAL OR WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

1. A motion was made to approve the minutes of the May 2018 meeting (with the correction of Sharrows) by Jack Wilhite; seconded by Connie Fribley with no oppositions.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Regarding the bike lane proposal, Mayor Thallemer advised a public meeting was held to speak with residents. Most of the concerns involved traffic and speeding along Main Street. He added he received suggestions from residents but has not spoken to staff about possible solutions. Those concerns should be resolved first before the bike lanes are placed on Main Street.

Concerning placing bike lanes on Fort Wayne Street, Mayor Thallemer stated he spoke with a resident and a school parent and they thought it was a good idea. Mayor Thallemer added the speed board was placed on Main Street for a period of time. Traffic counts will be taken at intersections in the area to see if they warrant additional stop signs. Mayor Thallemer advised reducing the speed limit will be taken into consideration. He added there are four to five things to look at regarding Main Street before the bike lanes can be added.

Mayor Thallemer advised there is a bit of uncertainty about the sidewalk configuration at Lincoln School and the project to improve sidewalks between Main and Clark Streets. The priority is that children get to school in a safe manner. It used to be called "Safe Routes to School" and the Federal government set aside money for those types of improvements. With those monies not available now, the City is attempting to do it locally and still improve safety along with different modes of transportation to school.

City Planner, Jeremy Skinner, explained that Colfax and Clark Streets are under construction now. He added the INDOT project is 2022 monies, so the sidewalk project is a few years away. The intent with building the new school was to create walkability throughout the neighborhood so children could have a safe passage to school. Mayor Thallemer stated the City may go ahead and add bike lanes on Fort Wayne Street and see how it works. He clarified this will not eliminate any parking. Mayor Thallemer added studies will be done on Main Street this summer to determine if anything will need to be done. Jeremy Skinner advised in terms of speed, bike lanes on Main Street would help reduce the speed with the narrowing of the road. He added part of the issue with Main and Fort Wayne Streets is they are one way; however, it is practically wide enough for two-way traffic.