

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

January 20, 2020

The Public Safety Committee of the Village of Mount Horeb met on the above date at 6:00 p.m. in the board room of the Municipal Building, 138 East Main Street, Mount Horeb, Wisconsin. Jason Fendrick was acting chairperson and called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. All members were present except Chair Brenda Monroe and Mike McNall. Mount Horeb Police Lieutenant, Nate Gretzinger, and Village Administrator, Nic Owen, were also present.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Cathy Scott moved; Steve Holum seconded to approve the October 21, 2019 meeting minutes. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public comments.

CONSIDER HANDICAPPED PARKING ON MAIN STREET

Nic Owen reported that he has received a number of requests for additional handicap parking spots on Main Street. There are currently four handicap spaces available on Main Street. Nic spoke with Rob Wright, the Village Engineer, who recommended the addition of at least one more handicap parking space on Main Street. He suggested that it be on the north side of Main Street. Nic presented a map showing where the existing handicap stalls are located and potential suggestions for the new stall(s).

After some discussion among the committee members, it was determined that adding two more handicap parking spaces on Main Street would be sufficient. It was determined that the following two locations would be recommended: the first stall east of the crosswalk on the north side of East Main Street at First and Main and the stall on the north side of West Main Street closest to North Grove Street. This would bring the total handicap spaces on Main Street to six.

Steve Holum moved; Cathy Scott seconded to approve the addition of two handicap parking spaces on Main Street at the above noted locations. Motion carried.

CONSIDER PEDESTRIAN CROSSWALK SIGNAGE AT SPRINGDALE & 8TH STREET

Two individuals, Joe and Theresa Drapeau of 320 North Eighth Street spoke to the committee regarding their concerns of pedestrians trying to cross the roadway at the roundabout at Springdale and 8th Streets. Their house is 6 houses north of the roundabout and they have lived there since 2006. They expressed concerns of the roundabout and how the roundabout puts pedestrians in harms way. Joe stated he feels the pedestrian crossing is too close to the roundabout and also feels that additional and/or better signage would help. Joe and Theresa suggested flashing lights at the roundabout for pedestrian crossings.

Lt. Gretzinger reported that over the last five years there have been 17 accidents at this particular location with 5 of those being vehicle vs. pole accidents and one of those being a vehicle vs. pedestrian accident. He stated that the ratio of people from in town and people from out of town is approximately 2:1. He also reported that there is not a statutory speed limit for roundabouts, but the recommended speed is typically 25 miles per hour or less. He stated that there are some communities that have signage indicating the roundabouts are 15 mph.

Lt. Gretzinger spoke with two individuals from the Department of Transportation regarding this issue. His contacts at DOT were with Graham Heitz, Traffic Operations Engineer, SW Region (Madison) and Andrew Winga, Supervisor of Traffic Operations, (Lacrosse). DOT representatives indicated they will send someone out to study the roundabout in question and check the pedestrian signage that is currently there, as it is possible that the signage is not up-to-date.

Lt. Gretzinger reported that the flashing lights suggested by Joe and Theresa are called RRFB – rectangular rapid flash beacons. The cost would be \$7,500.00/side at the roundabout. That would be for two solar ray signs with a push button. That cost does not include installation.

Nic Owen reported that representatives from the school stated there are potential grants available to help cover the cost of RFB.

Committee members were in agreement to get the state's recommendations for the roundabout. Theresa asked if the state will check the vehicle vs. pedestrian issues. Lt. Gretzinger indicated they will evaluate the issues and also the signage for pedestrian safety. The committee members agreed that they share Joe and Theresa's concerns.

It was determined that the committee will wait for the results of the DOT study and their recommendations. Once the study has been completed and the results have been obtained from DOT, this issue will be on the next Public Safety Committee agenda.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Roundabout safety issues at Springdale Street and 8th Street.

The next Public Safety Committee meeting is TBD.

ADJOURN

Steve Holum moved; Cathy Scott seconded, to adjourn at 6:29 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Kit Witte, Mount Horeb Police Department Administrative Assistant.