

TRAFFIC COMMISSION MINUTES

March 11, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.
3rd Floor Council Chambers – City Hall

CITY CLERK
2020 JUL 13 AM 11:09

	Name	Members' Term Attendance (mtgs attended-mtgs absent)	End of Current Term of Office
MEMBERS PRESENT:	David Gentry	(26-02)	05/31/2021
	John Reese	(15-00)	12/04/2022
	Robert Douglass	(09-00)	02/11/2024
	Keith Marriot	(07-03)	08/27/2023
	Randy Parlett	(07-06)	07/11/2023

STAFF PRESENT: Andy Clements, Director of Public Works and Transportation
Ashley Parker, Recording Secretary
Keven Schneider, Superintendent of Street Division
James Tonn, SJPD Traffic Unit

Call to Order

David Gentry, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Item 1 – Approve February 12, 2020 minutes. John Reese motioned to approve the February 12, 2020 minutes, David Gentry accepted, and Robert Douglass seconded. By general consent, the minutes of the February 12, 2020 meeting were unanimously approved. **Motion Carried.**

Item 2 – Final decision on the removal of the traffic signals and installation of either 4-way or 2-way stops in the Central Business District. Jose Rodriguez with Snyder & Associates gave a short presentation regarding the traffic signal study and recommendations. He explained that a 3-month study was performed on 25 intersections downtown using a traffic signal warrant study as set forth in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD). This study was able to determine many items, like whether the signals were needed at the intersections and could be justified as a 2-way or 4-way stop. Andy added that over 1,200 direct mailings were sent to property owners in the central business district to invite comment to the proposed changes and invite them to the Commission's meeting.

David Gentry, Chairman, wanted to emphasize that he was correct in understanding that the signal removal process would not happen all at once, and Andy Clements informed the Board it would phase in over a years' time. James Tonn mentioned that although not everyone agrees with this decision, from a law officers' standpoint, the traffic signal removal is a good thing. Officers will work diligently to keep staff updated with any Andy Clements, stated that Public Works will be relying heavily upon any reports from the police department regarding accidents. If accident reports start coming in for preventable accidents, then the process will need to be tweaked, such as signs warning of upcoming stop signs, or instead of 2-way stops that

section may be turned in a 4-way stop. In the end, if it does not work, and there are too many problems, then recommendations will be made to turn the traffic signals in selected locations.

Bert Cox, a citizen of St. Joseph, had a few questions on whether removing the traffic signals would affect downtown parking. Andy Clements responded that stop signs would have no impact to the parking downtown versus signals.

With no other public comments or questions, David Gentry asked for a motion, John Reese motioned to approve the traffic signals and Robert Douglas seconded. By general consent, the decision to remove the traffic signals downtown and installation of either 4-way or 2-way stops were unanimously approved and will move to Council vote. **Motion Carried.** Andy commented that the City Council will likely want to consider the issue at a future work session, before the matter is formally placed on the agenda for a future Council meeting.

With no other items on the agenda, David Gentry motioned that the meeting be adjourned, and John Reese seconded. Meeting Adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted

/s/ Ashley Parker

Ashley Parker, Recording Secretary