

CIRCLEVILLE SERVICE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES 7/16/2024

Circleville City Service Committee convened in City Council Chambers, 127 South Court St, Circleville, OH. Tuesday, July 16, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. Present at Roll Call: Chair Tom Duvall and members Sheri Theis, Zach Brooks, and Clerk Melissa Burns. Other Council members present: Tom Klitzka, John Moats and Jeff Hallinin.

Duvall called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

Theis motioned to approve the minutes from May 14, 2024. Seconded by Brooks. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

a) AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SERVICE TO REMOVE THE EXISTING FOUR LANE STREET MARKINGS ON NORTH AND SOUTH COURT STREET FROM PLEASANT STREET TO THE CONNECTOR ROAD ON THE SOUTH END AND REPLACE WITH TWO THRU LANES AND A CENTER TURN LANE.

Discussion: Duvall responded to the major concerns and questions from the Service Meeting May 14, 2024. Duval stated the reasoning for the restriping is to allow Citizens who live on Court Street to safely; park in front of their homes; avoid replacing side door mirrors, access groceries and children from their car; and customers can safely exit and return to their cars from shopping. Duvall explains ODOT's lane specification minimum is 12' and the current lane configuration is only 10'. Duvall also states that a single lane capacity for a 12' lane is 15,000 vehicles per day. Duval gave facts about the Daily Traffic Count on Court Street is 7,456 and between the 100 and 200 blocks there have been 64 accidents in the last 12 months. This makes accidents 60% higher on Court Street when compared to Main Street. Duvall stated the study from the Safer Streets for All suggested the City should add left turn lanes to Court Street and reduce the number of lanes from four to three. Duvall provided a statement from the Chief of Circleville Fire Department stating the change would not impact them and from Cargill's Plant Operation Senior Supervisor who stated she believed the wider turn lane would be better. Duvall also surveyed downtown businesses who are overwhelmingly in support of the restriping.

Speakers For and Against the Ordinance:

Aaron Barthelmas suggested a five-way switch light at the Court and Main Street if the Ordinance passes. Mr. Barthelmas also asked if the traffic count was done while school was out, and Cargill closed.

Wes Hart spoke to say this would increase the traffic on Court Street because you are taking away one of the main four lanes. Mr. Hart stated this would make it harder for people to get in and out of their cars.

William Haddox spoke to state he believes the middle lane will become an off-load point or U-turn lane to avoid trains.

Jeff Coleman spoke to say he wants to remain neutral but wanted to know when the City is planning to repave. Mr. Coleman suggested changing the timing of the lights to prevent speeding.

Gary Carpenter stated when he lived in Columbus, they expanded the parking spots to 10' and still had the same safety issue.

Richie Verito spoke to say if the City is going to move forward, then the City could look at this as a beautification project for downtown. He suggested pausing on what they want their downtown to look like before deciding.

Hellen Maddox spoke to say workers at her home were commenting that Court Street was like a dragstrip. She stated she has seen cars drag racing or speeding as well.

MOTION-ROLL CALL-VOTE: Theis motioned to forward the Ordinance to the next Council meeting on August 6, 2024, with a recommendation for Adoption. Brooks seconded. Roll call (2 Yeas –1 Nays) Motion carried.

Old or Any Other Business: None

Brooks motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:27 p.m. Theis seconded. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by: Melissa Burns, Clerk