

# TRAFFIC CONTROL BOARD MINUTES

## January 23, 2019

### Approved As Amended

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jerry Dunning, Nicole Cromwell, Dan Brooks, Lt. Brian Korell

MEMBERS ABSENT: John Armstrong, Sondra Baker

STAFF SUPPORT: Dakota Martonen, Erin Claunch, Mike Dotson, Debi Meling, Lora Mattox

GUESTS: None

#### BUSINESS MEETING:

**Call to order:** Jerry Dunning called the meeting to order at 12:08 pm in the conference room of the Public Works Building, 2224 Montana Avenue.

**Minutes:** Motion by Jerry Dunning for approval of the December 2018 minutes. Seconded by Nicole Cromwell. Motion carried on a voice vote.

OPEN PUBLIC COMMENT: None

#### STAFF REPORTS:

Email questions from Pierre Jomini (see attached email)

- School zones on Grand Avenue: Pierre had concerns about speeds/yellow flashers. His concern centered on the discrepancies between the multiple school zones operating at different times within close proximity of each other. Ben Steele Middle School and Grace Montessori Academy (located on Grand Ave between Bluegrass Drive and 56<sup>th</sup> Street West) have flashers which operate during school peak hours. Billings Christian School has a 35mph sign without flashers (thus making the school zone operational from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm. The signs for BCS were installed by Yellowstone County Public Works. City staff is aware of the concern and is working with county officials to implement yellow flashers at Billings Christian School during school hours.
- Signal timings at Grand Avenue/54<sup>th</sup> Street West and Rimrock Road/54<sup>th</sup> Street West: Pierre had concerns about signal timing issues with these intersections. His concern was lower traffic volumes were being favored over the higher traffic volumes. City staff was made aware of his concern. Erin implemented a new signal timing at these intersections to help with the issue. See attached email and slides for more information.

#### BOARD REPORTS:

- Lora reported that the Long Range Transportation Plan is complete and can be viewed on the city website. She also talked about upcoming planning studies and how planning is developing an app that will show maps of bike lanes, trails, and etc.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

- **King Avenue West & 24<sup>th</sup> Street West overhead signing:** (*nothing to report at this time*) this item will be removed until the request to the Montana Department of Transportation is returned.

NEW BUSINESS:

**1. Upcoming Traffic Policies:**

- A. Road and lane rentals:** Erin gave an update that city staff is working on a plan on how these changes will be implemented for the following construction season. He will give a further update at a future traffic control board meeting.
  - B. Residential intersections:** Erin gave a presentation about when citizens make complaints about how their neighborhoods needs a stop sign or “someone will get killed”. City Staff goes by MUTCD which, gives very specific warrants for a stop sign. For example, road classification, accident history, sight distance, and over 2000 vehicles per day. Nicole asked “could we use other ideas besides stop signs”. Erin responded by alternating stop signs in each intersections. Another idea is using “circles” a miniature roundabout instead of stop signs. City staff is working on how to implement more stop signs or other ideas by using MUTCD specifics, crash data and clear vision analyst in residential neighborhoods. See attached slides for more information.
- 2. Officer elections:** This will take place at the next meeting which is scheduled for March 20<sup>th</sup>
- 3. 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue North Traffic Concerns (John Armstrong):** This item was tabled and will be discussed at a future meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:52 pm.