

MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC WORKS & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE
September 28, 2020
Online Broadcast Meeting

Present: Councilmembers Rader, Bullock, & Shachner

Also Present: Councilmembers Bullock & Litten, Mayor George, Director Leininger, Director Corrigan, Acting Chief Stone, Director Ducu, Engineer Papke, Chief Dunphy, Clerk Bach, & Deputy Clerk Lascu taking minutes

Start time: 6:03 p.m.

AGENDA

Approval of the minutes of the August 17, 2020 Public Works & Sustainability Committee meeting.

Chairman Rader made a motion, seconded by Councilmember Bullock to approve the minutes.

A roll call vote was taken as follows:

Yeas – Bullock, Rader

Nays – None

Motion passed. The minutes were approved.

ORDINANCE 16-2020 - AN ORDINANCE modifying Section 333.03(b)(2) of the Lakewood Codified Ordinances establishing a 25 miles-per-hour speed limit for Lake Avenue to ensure the calming of traffic and safe passage of cyclists. (1st read & referred to PWS 08/17/20; 2nd reading 09/08/20)

Councilmember Bullock provided an overview of the legislation and noted that resident calls provided the impetus for legislative action. He noted that bike lanes make safety even more of a priority on Lake Ave. Chairman Rader echoed Mr. Bullock's comments and spoke in support of the ordinance. Councilmember Shachner added that he is in support of lowering speed limits and has received comments supporting and opposing the legislation.

Mayor George spoke about the process involved in lowering speed limits and the importance of obtaining a traffic speed study and communicating with ODOT. A stealth radar is on order to be used to complete the study. The administration would like to include an ODOT representative at the next committee meeting.

Councilmember Litten spoke about lowering speed limits on Lake Ave. & Edgewater Dr. in sections where there are no sidewalks present. Residents have contacted him concerned that people will go down Edgewater at higher rates of speed if Lake Ave.'s speed limit is

lower. The administration expressed a desire to take a data driven approach to changing traffic patterns.

Councilmember Bullock pulled up a NOACA GIS map and noted that Lake Ave. in Lakewood is considered a local road. He noted the state's definitions of different types of roads and the default speeds that are assigned to them, noting that Lakewood does not necessarily have to follow state law.

Councilmember Litten stated a desire to gain a better understanding of the Edgewater speed issue further and the need to tailor solutions to unique situations.

Mayor George stated that the administration can get both traffic studies completed in the near future and speed limits on both streets can be discussed at the next committee meeting. Director Leininger stated that Lake Ave. in Cleveland is a county road and that it is unclear whether it is in Lakewood.

E-Comment – Nicholas Binfield - Thank you, this will make cycling on Lake Ave. much more appealing and safer. I would like to see more done to make cycling in Lakewood a better option. For example, delineators could be placed on Lake's south side bike lane to fully separate it from cars. I would also like to see the bike lanes on Madison Ave. and the north side of Lake swapped to be against the curb with parking in-between to fully protect cyclists from traffic and cars parking, and to better prevent from getting doored.

Director Ducu stated that lowering Edgewater Dr.'s speed limit to 15 miles per hour wouldn't do much good and that there is a need to collect data and look at the two roads separately. The committee determined it would be very expensive to put sidewalks in on the road.

Chairman Rader adjourned the meeting without objection.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.