

**THE CITY OF HURON, OHIO**  
**Huron Safety Committee**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**July 21, 2020 – 4:00pm**

A meeting of the Council Safety Committee was called to order by Christine Crawford on Tuesday, July 21 2020, at 4:00 p.m. at Huron City Hall. Committee members in attendance: Sam Artino, Monty Tapp and Christine Crawford.

Ms. Crawford directed the Clerk to call the roll. Members of the Safety Committee in attendance: **Christine Crawford, Sam Artino and Monty Tapp.**

Staff in attendance: Interim City Manager Michael Spafford, Police Chief Robert Lippert, Fire Captain Doug Nash, City Engineer/Zoning Inspector Doug Green, Parks & Recreation Operations Manager Doug Steinwart, Water Superintendent Jason Gibboney and Executive Administrative Assistant /Clerk of Council Terri Welkener.

**Approval of Minutes**

**Motion by Mr. Tapp to accept the minutes of the April 15, 2020 minutes.**

Ms. Crawford asked if there was any discussion on the motion. There being none, the committee unanimously approved the motion.

**Old Business**

**COVID-19 Update re: Community Events**

Mr. Spafford said in accordance with State of Ohio and Erie County Health Department guidelines, we have cancelled all remaining events at the Boat Basin for the rest of the summer. We are working on a plan with the Health Department regarding the potential to still do the movies, but there are concerns regarding crowd size.

We started a partnership with the Chamber of Commerce this year to overhaul the farmer's market and we decided to cancel the first one based on Commissioner Schade's initial guidance Tuesday night that we were likely going red on that Thursday. We ended up not going red, so the internal guideline we came up with is that as long as we are Level 2 or below, the program will continue. We can do it in way that both we and the Health Department are comfortable.

**COVID-19 Update re: Nickel Plate Beach**

Mr. Spafford said the new safety parameters relative to the anemometer have been implemented. We are having a record year in attendance. We have been able to utilize the portion of the beach that's on the east side of ditch line to allow for social distancing. We worked out some kinks in the warning system during the first couple weeks, but for the most part functionality of the anemometer is awesome both from a security standpoint with the webcams and the ability to add the automation portion. We have had two or three red flag events this year. Two were tripped by the anemometer and one manually. The anemometer is set up to detect north and northeast winds, and this was an event where a west wind was involved. Asked by Ms. Crawford if there were any complaints relating to those events, Mr. Spafford said nothing other than a few random e-mails asking for clarification. Two weekends ago we temporarily closed the park to any additional guests arriving

by car for about half an hour, waited for 50 cars to leave, and then reopened. Mr. Tapp asked if boaters can sign up to see the live feed video from the webcam. Mr. Spafford said we do have the function to make it publicly accessible, and we have played around with the idea but due to the nature of the beach we did not want to make video publicly available. We are kicking around other ideas to have cameras in other spots. We are considering adding north and south facing cameras at the lighthouse. The problem is line of sight to get it to City Hall, but we may be able to use Nickel Plate it is a cleaner line of sight.

## **New Business**

### **Huron Heights Neighborhood Request for Speed Bumps**

There was a Facebook post to a neighborhood page from Jennifer Cammalleri (attached as Exhibit A) and an e-mail received by Ms. Crawford from Joseph Mamere (attached as Exhibit B) regarding an excessive speed issue on Laguna Drive. Ms. Crawford also received a telephone call from a resident of that neighborhood who is against speed bumps. Mr. Tapp said that he received two phone calls. Chief Lippert said the City quit approving speed bumps 5 to 7 years ago due to maintenance concerns, and in his opinion, as a resident of that neighborhood, a speed bump is not needed on Laguna Drive. There is one stretch once you come out of the hills and curves, where people may increase their speed a little bit, but they are at 20mph going out of there, so they get up to 27-29mph, and it looks like 40mph when they are going by, especially with cars parked on the side of the street. It actually looks a lot worse than it probably is. The other issue is once they get past Ms. Cammalleri's house, that's not the City street anymore – that is private property. He told Mr. Tapp on the phone that it's summertime on Laguna Drive. We get this every year. We can send guys down there and sit and not see a violation until we leave. He doesn't have an answer, but speed bumps aren't the answer. He says a lot more residents are putting signs in their yards, which is great. He has lived there 15 years and he doesn't see that much of an issue. If he's outside and someone is going a little fast, he gives them a look. We can have a car sit there for an hour and it turns into a waste of time and then as soon as he leaves, they will see a car going fast. He is sorry that is the way it is and they will do the best they can to deal with that situation, but the City has been against speed bumps and he is also against speed bumps. They can certainly increase their patrols there, but remember when tickets start getting written we don't look at the address before writing it. High traffic times are Friday and Sunday evenings. Chief Lippert said that those are the times he will have his officers address.

Mr. Tapp asked about speed limit signs. Chief Lippert said that we could install a sign or two down at that end, as he wasn't sure if there is one there now. Parking is only allowed on one side of the street, and there could be more signs stating that. Chief Lippert said you could talk about lowering the speed and doing a traffic study, but he thinks we will find that it is probably not going to meet any requirements to lower it. We are as low as the Code allow, which is 25mph, but the City can go lower. Mr. Tapp said another suggestion he received in a phone call today was to install a digital speed sign. Chief Lippert said the City has one, but it is out of commission. Ms. Crawford asked if those signs are available from any organizations on loan, but Chief Lippert did not know of any. Chief Lippert said he wouldn't be opposed to one of the solar powered flashing speed limit signs. It doesn't record your speed, but the flash of the lights gets your attention. Ms. Crawford thought that might be the spot for that. Mr. Tapp confirmed that in order to lower the speed limit, a traffic study must be done, which study would be performed by Doug Green and OHM Advisors. We did one recently in Chaska.

Ms. Crawford said that the plan should be to step up patrols a little bit, and then asked if Council thought a speed study would be in order. Chief Lippert said that a speed study would look at the

average speed, number of cars and so forth to see if we would have the ability to even lower the speed limit. A traffic county and study doesn't hurt anything. Mr. Spafford said that we can get it, but the cost is \$4,000-\$5,000. The cost for the recent Chaska traffic study was \$3,600. Council discussed the merits of the flashing speed sign. Chief Lippert said that his police car is always parked on the street, and doesn't seem to have any effect on the occasional speeder. It is a narrow street, and someone going 29mph looks like they're going 40mph. Chief Lippert said Ms. Cammalleri is in a bad spot because she is the last house and if they are coming from the marine, he can see them probably gaining a little speed coming up that private area, and then they have to slow down to make the curve by her house. The police cannot enforce speed in that area unless it is a reckless operation situation because it's private property. Mr. Tapp asked if the private street owner can install a speed bump. Chief Lippert said that can do that. Ms. Cammalleri mentioned in her post that there is a private citizen willing to pay for a speed bump. Because that property belongs to Jim Murray, he is free to install a speed bump. Chief Lippert emphasized that the citizen installing the speed bump is liable if that speed bump causes damage to a vehicle. Mr. Biddlecomb mentioned that Riverside is another place where there is a speed issue. Ms. Crawford said that she would reach out to Ms. Cammalleri and let her know that it was discussed today, and we are looking at signage, and that speed bumps were eliminated in the City several years ago. If she pushes that issue with Jim, she will tell her what she knows and go from there.

#### Children at Play Sign – Canterbury

Mr. Tapp said residents on Canterbury requested a "Children at Play" sign. Chief Lippert said those types of signs aren't in the traffic code so they can just be put up by the Street Department. Ms. Crawford asked if there is a written request for that. Mr. Spafford said it would simply be checking with the Street Department to see what the sign layout in that area is. Mr. Spafford asked for a more specific location. Ms. Crawford installation of one of the lighted speed signs in that location, as well.

#### Elimination of No Left Turn at Commerce Plaza

Ms. Crawford referred the committee members to the report and drawing provided by Jon Grimm at OHM Advisors (see exhibit "C" attached hereto); Mr. Spafford has a request from a concerned citizen asking if the City, as part of the US 6 Project, would consider allowing a left turn heading west out of Commerce Plaza. Based on that request, we requested an engineering analysis. Mr. Critelli said that they referred to the State Highway Access Manual to see where this drive and this property fall in that code. The parcel can only be allowed so many main entrances. This one has two on US 6 and one off of Berlin Road. Their traffic engineer did a preliminary review of this, and the early recommendation based on those conditions is not favorable without some supported evidence to have a variance as long as there is no documentation of accidents, etc. This proposes a left turn across three lanes, and not two. You could consider adding a left turn out of the main entrance and eliminating the left turn at the western entrance because that entrance is skewed off from Tiffin Ave. At the center entrance you have the issue of the intersection's proximity to the drive. If there was going to be a decision made, he would suggest that it would be eliminating the left turn from the western drive and adding it to the main drive. It would have to be one or the other. Ms. Crawford asked if Mr. Critelli knew the history of the no left turn sign. Mr. Critelli said that dates back to before the bypass went in. There is no data showing that the left turn out of the western drive is a problem. One of the problems allowing the left-hand turn at the main entrance is the right-hand turn lane – you don't know if the person is turning right into Commerce Plaza or right at Berlin Road. It is not an ideal situation to say yes to a westbound left turn out of that entrance. Ms. Crawford said as a driver, it feels a little less intimidating down by the bank because there is less real estate to cross. Mr. Artino said there is a better sight line from the western entrance. Mr. Critelli said to summarize, their traffic engineer did not recommend allowing the westbound

left out of the main entrance, unless there are justification for a variance. Ms. Crawford confirmed that we don't see any justification for the change, and the recommendation is to leave it as it is. The committee was in agreement.

No Parking Sign in Chaska Beach at the End of Kiwanis

Ms. Crawford said that Mary Hetteberg sent an e-mail (attached hereto as Exhibit "D") requesting the City to paint a curb and install a no parking sign. Mr. Critelli said that Mr. Green was at the location and apparently there has been some clearing of vegetation to allow the painted curb line to be revealed, and there has been some coordination to get the curb line repainted. There is an existing "No Parking" sign within 100 feet, so it seems as though painting the curb is the only thing to be done, which the Streets Department has already taken care of. The "No Parking" sign is not warranting due to the existing sign.

Other Matters

Mayor Artino said Mr. Claus asked him to look into the pier ladders status. Mr. Spafford said the ladders are being fabricated and painted, and we are a couple of weeks from start of installation by Latanick. At the same time, the life rings will be installed around the same time.

Ms. Crawford asked if anyone knew the distance from a stop sign allowable for parking. Chief Lippert said it is not less than 100' from an intersection. Someone asked Ms. Crawford about it and she said that she would look into it. The street in question is Standard Street. There is a little pickup truck almost right across from the duplex there. Chief Lippert said the curb may not be painted in that area. Ms. Crawford asked the matter to be looked into and corrected if necessary.

Mayor Artino said Hidden Valley Condominiums is looking for a "No Wake" buoy in Mudbrook Creek, and they asked Rivers' Edge if they want to get involved. Mr. Spafford said Mr. Dike contacted him, and they were asking about how they get a sign placed, and the last was Mr. Dike got the contact information for who we use to order that stuff from Harbor Patrol. Chief Lippert thought that we had put a couple of signs down there. He bought 2-4 large signs, and he thought they were going in that area. Ms. Crawford said she thought this was part of the buoy grant conversation last summer when we had boats flying through there with the high water. They asked Rivers Edge to join them on a petition for a No Wake zone on Mudbrook Creek between M docks and

There being no further business to come before the Safety Committee, **Mr. Tapp made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:20pm.** All in favor, meeting adjourned at 6:20pm.

  
Terri S. Welkener  
Clerk of Council

Re: Huron Heights

Mike Spafford <mike.spafford@huronohio.us>

Wed 7/15/2020 8:05 AM

To: William Biddlecombe <willsxtreme01@aol.com>

Thanks William. We have an upcoming Safety Committee and have requests similar to this in a few other neighborhoods. Once we set a date I'll be sure to let you know and add this to the agenda if someone from the neighborhood would like to attend/discuss with the committee.

If you do speak with anyone, make it clear not to place speed bumps on any City streets without our approval first.

I'll be in touch. Thanks for the info.

-Mike

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**From:** William Biddlecombe <willsxtreme01@aol.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, July 15, 2020 7:33:01 AM

**To:** Mike Spafford <mike.spafford@huronohio.us>

**Subject:** Huron Heights

FYI what's going on in my neighborhood right now.

7:31



Jennifer Tann Cammalleri ►  
Huron Heights Neighborhood  
Watch



10h •

We have a horrible problem with speeders around our neighborhood. We now have more kids and animals around the neighborhood then in the past. My husband, and I feel now is the time to take action before someone is seriously injured or worse killed. The reckless disregard for the safety of our friends, family, and neighbors has to stop. Anyways, I have

been talking with attorney Jim Murray about placing speed bumps and how we go about legally doing so. He is willing to sit down and help us with whatever we need. He has also offered to pay for a speed bump! I would like to have a safety meeting for the Huron Heights neighborhood. I was thinking of possibly gathering at pier pub or harbor house so we can all discuss ideas. Please pass the word around, and invite all your neighbors to this. I was thinking some Sunday morning around 11am that way most could attend. We will need a few people on the committee such as a president, a Vice President, a secretary and a treasure. So if you are interested, or would like to nominate someone please let me know.

Jennifer Cammalleri  
1119 Laguna Dr



 Lisa Campbell and ...



Write a comment...



## Terri Welkener

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**From:** Christine Crawford  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020 1:45 PM  
**To:** Terri Welkener  
**Subject:** Fw: Speed Bumps

Hi Terri -

Can I ask you to please forward this to the Safety Committee please? I received this via text from Joe Dike who received it from Mr Mamare-

Thanks!

cc

----- Forwarded Message -----

**From:** Christine <christine@crawfordinsurellc.com>  
**To:** "christine@crawfordinsurellc.com" <christine@crawfordinsurellc.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, July 21, 2020, 01:41:35 PM EDT  
**Subject:**

There is suppose to be a city counsel safety meeting today at 4:00pm.. one item of importance to us who live on Laguna Dr is the uncontrollable speeding of traffic down Laguna to and from HLM Marina.. it's been terrible here for my 15 years on this street I've chased assholes down and confronted them many times at the Marina for excessive speeding , I've made 4x8 foot signs and nailed them to telephone poles boldly telling them not to speed they even ran off the road because of speeding and knock down the same telephone pole I had to no speeding sign.. I've had drunk boaters lose control near my house hit a tree and people were laying in the road from the crash etc etc.. now we have many newer families with small children and it's just a matter of time before a child or a person gets hit or killed.. no side walks means citizens have to use the toad to move up and down the street.. it's serious we've tried everything to get speeders to stop nothing works but a speed bump or two.. your street had to have a speed bump installed to stop all the speeders from threatening your community we need same here... please help the efforts to make our street safe.. and support us in this safety item... speed bump is only thing that will fail safe as police, signs, reduced speed limits etc will not solve this problem only couple speed bumps.. thanks for listening... need you support. Can't put any value on a child's life and now with so many more kids it's just a matter of time.. the problem is 100% the people going to and from Marina and bar going through a residential area with no regard for the safety of people who live here. Russ MamereLaguna Drive...

Sent from my iPhone

## **Terri Welkener**

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**From:** City of Huron Zoning Department  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 9:45 AM  
**To:** Mary Hetteberg  
**Cc:** Doug Green; Robert Lippert (robert\_lippert@huronoh.org); Terri Welkener  
**Subject:** RE: Fire lane

Mary,

Confirming receipt. I will get this into the Street Department Foreman, Steve Didelot relative to the re-painting of the curb.

I have also copied the Police Chief and Clerk of Council in the event that discussion of a No Parking Sign being warranted as this matter would need to go before the Safety Committee and then City Council

Thanks,

Christine Gibboney  
Zoning Permit Technician/Administrative Assistant City of Huron- Zoning Department  
417 Main Street  
Huron, OH 44839  
419-433-5000 ext. 1302

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Mary Hetteberg <mlbhetteberg@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 13, 2020 9:30 AM  
**To:** City of Huron Zoning Department <zoning@huronohio.us>  
**Subject:** Fire lane

Good morning,

I have tried to contact Doug Green, by phone and email, but am getting no response? I am hoping you can help in some way.

I am the Block Watch coordinator for Chaska. In talking with Sean Ryan, he suggested I contact Doug. The end of Kiwanis, the ramp area to the beach, on the west side is a fire lane. The curb is covered with vegetation and the yellow marking is not visible. Golf carts now fill the area on a regular basis. I have asked the homeowner on the west to clean the vegetation. She will be doing that soon. I am asking the city to paint the curb. In an emergency, there is limited space for safety personnel to park and quickly access the beach.

With lake conditions what they are these days, we need this area opened up.

A no parking sign would also help. There are so many Golf carts these days, they are now parking down the street on the west side, also a no parking zone.

Hoping you can help.

Mary Hetteberg

Sent from my iPad



**From:** Jon Grimm <[Jon.Grimm@ohm-advisors.com](mailto:Jon.Grimm@ohm-advisors.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, July 6, 2020 11:19 AM  
**To:** Doug Green <[doug.green@huronohio.us](mailto:doug.green@huronohio.us)>  
**Cc:** Russ Critelli <[Russ.Critelli@ohm-advisors.com](mailto:Russ.Critelli@ohm-advisors.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: Scanned from a Xerox Multifunction Printer

In order to get a better understanding of this, I read through the State Highway Access Management Manual and offer the following thoughts:

1. I believe this particular facility would fall under Category 3. Its not specifically shown on ODOTs GIS website though and would need to be verified prior to any formal requests are made.
2. In accordance with Section 4.1.D.b only one direct access point will be permitted per parcel. Additional access points may be permitted without a variance if it is determined that this additional access doesn't adversely affect the safety and operation of the highway, is necessary for the safe and efficient use of the property, and would not adversely affect adjacent properties.
  - a. The plaza itself is all part of the same parcel and currently has 3 access points. All full with the exception to the one in question that allows RT exit only.

With all that being said, I do understand that the volumes along US 6 (approx. 10,000 ADT in 2019) and minimal amount of crashes might make this a candidate for full access. However, I believe that doing so would create a potential for additional crashes due to the proximity of the drive to the intersection and the number of lanes that need to be crossed for these LT vehicles. Because of this, I would be hesitant to recommend removing the turn restrictions from this drive unless there is a pretty significant issue with congestion, or safety implications, on how the site currently operates.

**JON GRIMM, P.E. | OHM Advisors®**  
PROJECT ENGINEER

**D** (614) 474-1104 **C** (330) 827-0088 **O** (614) 418-0600

[jon.grimm@ohm-advisors.com](mailto:jon.grimm@ohm-advisors.com) | OHM-Advisors.com





SHEET 1 of 1	DATE: _____ PROJ. NUMBER: _____ ENG: _____ PROJ. WORK: _____ CAD: _____ COUNTY: _____ CITY/TOWNSHIP: _____ SCALE: _____ HORZ. DATUM: _____ VERT. DATUM: _____  CITY OF HURON U.S. 6 DRIVEWAY ACCESS FIGURE	REVISIONS:	PROJECT NUMBER: 2019-001 PROJECT NAME: U.S. 6 PROJECT LOCATION: 2019-001	 OHM 800 E. 10th Ave. Ste. 100 Grand Rapids, MI 49503-1000 616.455.1000 OHMADVISORS.COM
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