

TRAFFIC COMMISSION

City of Findlay
July 21, 2025

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Service-Safety Director Rob Martin, City Engineer Jeremy Kalb, Fire Chief Josh Eberle, Police Chief James Mathias.

STAFF PRESENT: Jake Kelley, Law Director Rob Feighner, Kathy Launder.

GUESTS PRESENT: Dan Delong and Barb Delong.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Request of David Ray for a study to change the first alley west of S. Main Street between W. Crawford Street and W. Sandusky St. to a two-way alley.

10/21/2024

David Ray stated that it is difficult to see to pull out of alley onto Sandusky Street no matter which direction. He suggested bubble mirrors or the potential to change the alley to two-way. Director Martin stated that in discussing this with City Engineer Jeremy Kalb, there are a couple issues. The alley is pretty narrow to be able to make it two-way. People are creatures of habit the alley has been one-way for a number of years and people may not realize they can utilize it as two-way. Also, the direction of the one-way alleys/streets change from south to north as you head west. Ray stated that motorists speed excessively from Main Street to Cory Street. Does not want to remove any parking spaces. Hense stated that there are no locations available to install bubble mirrors. Director Martin stated that we can only eliminate so many risks because of the travelling public. The vehicular traffic needs to take ownership and responsibility to travel safely. Director Martin stated that there isn't an easy solution. Director Martin stated that a bubble mirror may not be effective. Director Martin stated that he is willing to give a trial run of making the alley two-way. Hense stated that additional signage would be needed for traffic coming off the alley onto Crawford to make sure they don't go the wrong way on the one-way street. Director Martin stated that he would be more willing to trial a two-way rather than change the direction of travel on a one-way.

Motion to table request until communication can be sent to abutting property owners that have parking availability notifying of a traffic study regarding changing the first alley west of S. Main Street between W. Crawford Street and W. Sandusky St. to a two-way alley, by Chief Eberle, second by Director Martin. Motion passed 4-0.

4/21/2025

Item remains tabled. Engineering will send out notification to properties along alley.

7/21/2025

Item remains tabled.

2. Request of Jake Kelley, Traffic Signal Department, to review the intersection of Fostoria Avenue and Tiffin Avenue.

1/21/2025

Motion to table request until Traffic Signal Department is in attendance to discuss, by Chief Eberle, second by Director Martin. Motion passed 4-0.

4/21/2025

Item remains tabled.

5/19/2025

Motion to lift item from table, by Chief Mathias, second by Chief Eberle. Motion passed 3-0.

Kelley stated that he is looking for a solution to the left turn from westbound Fostoria Avenue onto eastbound Tiffin Avenue. He stated that currently if someone wants to turn left, they have to wait several seconds for the left turn arrow to activate which stops all Tiffin Avenue traffic. There is the concern that while they are waiting, a motorist could rear end them if they are not paying attention. The other option is to stop Tiffin Avenue traffic every time Fostoria Avenue has the green light. This option backs up Tiffin Avenue significantly which is not favorable. Chief Eberle suggested adding signage that states left turn needs to wait for left turn arrow.

Motion to reach out to Ohio Department of Transportation for suggestions, by Chief Eberle, second by Director Martin. Motion passed 3-0.

Motion to postpone to next meeting scheduled for June 16, 2023, until hear back from Ohio Department of Transportation with suggestions, by Chief Eberle, second by Director Martin. Motion passed 3-0.

7/21/2025

Motion to lift item from table, by Chief Eberle, second by Chief Mathias. Motion passed 4-0.

Jake Kelley stated that he received another complaint that a motorist could not get the left turn arrow to activate. Tried to talk with the Traffic Division of Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). Kalb stated that this area will be getting studied during the State Route 224 Traffic Study being conducted soon. The traffic study will include traffic patterns, traffic signals, turning movements, etc. Any change to signal operation will back up traffic. Chief Eberle suggested to put a sign on the cross arm stating there is a delay for left turn arrow activation. Kalb stated there is approved signage stating left turn only with green arrow. Kalb stated to not make any changes until the traffic study is complete. Director Martin suggested we not make changes to light configuration but add a sign to wait for green arrow for left turn.

Motion to not change traffic signal timing at Fostoria Avenue and Tiffin Avenue but look at a regulatory sign for warning to wait for green arrow for left turn, by Kalb, second by Chief Eberle. Motion passed 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Request Becky Freeman, 342 Lester Avenue, for 25 mile per hour signs on Lester Avenue.

Danny Delong attended the meeting on behalf of Becky Freeman. He stated there are no speed limit signs on Lester Avenue. They are concerned that motorists are speeding on Lester Avenue. There are several children who live on this road. Danny stated that he had purchased a Children At Play sign, but the right-of-way is so wide in that area that motorists wouldn't readily see it placed behind the right-of-way. Asked if there was a better solution. Kalb stated that Children At Play are not a regulatory sign to be placed in the right-of-way and there is no evidence that these types of signs slow traffic.

Motion to install 25 MPH speed limit signs on Lester Avenue, by Chief Eberle, second by Director Martin. Motion passed 4-0.

2. Request of Danny Delong, 130 Woodcliff Drive, for a four-way stop at Lester Avenue and Anna Street.

Danny Delong stated that there are currently four-way stops on Anna Street at Edith Avenue and Melrose Avenue. Motorists are speeding on Anna Street. Requesting a four-way stop at Anna Street and Lester Avenue to slow this traffic. Kalb stated that stop signs are not for speed control just for turning movements. Chief Mathias stated there have not been any accidents reported at this intersection in the last five years. They have done extra enforcement in this area for the last several years. Kalb stated that he would rather move the four-way stop from Anna Street and Edith Street to Anna Street and Lester Avenue, but there may be a sight distance issue with a tree. Kelley stated he can post radar signs to gather speed data. Kalb stated we can gather traffic counts in the area as well.

Motion to set up radar signs to gather data for speed and gather traffic counts, and postpone until data is received, by Director Martin, second by Chief Mathias. Motion passed 4-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

With no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned. The next meeting of the City of Findlay Traffic Commission will be held on August 18, 2025, at 2:30 p.m. in the third floor conference room of the Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy K. Launder
City Clerk

WORK ORDERS

Minutes approved by Council 8/19/2025

Motion to not change traffic signal and install a regulatory sign for warning to wait for green arrow for left turn, by Kalb, second by Chief Eberle. Motion passed 4-0.

Install appropriate regulatory sign *warning to wait for green arrow for left turn* on the cross arm on Fostoria Avenue at Tiffin Avenue

Motion to install 25 MPH speed limit signs on Lester Avenue, by Chief Eberle, second by Director Martin. Motion passed 4-0.

Install 25 MPH speed limit signs on Lester Avenue.

Motion to set up radar signs to gather data for speed and traffic counts, and postpone until data is received, by Director Martin, second by Chief Mathias. Motion passed 4-0.

Set up radar signs to gather data for speed and traffic counts on Anna Street between Lester Avenue and Prentiss Avenue.

ADMINISTRATION ACTION

ACTION.