CALL TO ORDER

Kratch called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes of the December 6, 2010, meeting were approved following a motion by Coburn and a second by Greene.

NEW BUSINESS

A. New Commissioner Appointment

Cynthia Greene was introduced as the newest member of the Traffic Safety Commission.

B. Takena Street parking

Irish gave an overview of the parking issues on Takena and an update regarding the neighborhood meetings that have taken place. Irish informed the Commission that all parking restriction signs had been removed from the street to determine if parking overflow from the High School had been minimized. Irish presented a memo outlining the background on this issue, neighborhood discussions, and a list of options addressing this issue for the Commissioners to consider (see attached). Irish provided the Commission with the estimated cost for each of the options mentioned in the memo. Coburn asked if the City would be liable in the event an emergency situation occurred and the emergency vehicles could not respond due to the parking congestion on the street. Irish indicated the City may not be liable for an emergency situation but they are vulnerable from an ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) compliance standpoint. Coburn asked if A2 (restrict parking along one side of the street and prohibit “shoulder” parking) would address ADA and emergency issue as well as having neighborhood support. Irish indicated it would address the ADA and emergency issues. Irish described the pros and cons of the four options indicated in the memo. Coburn asked what the Council needed from the Commission. Irish said Council had asked for the Commission’s recommendation and the neighborhood’s recommendation before making a decision on how to proceed. Greene asked what advantage would be gained by alternating parking from one side of the street to the other. Irish described the traffic calming effect that occurs when parking is alternated. Greene asked if property values would be impacted either negatively or positively with the addition of larger driveways or limiting on street parking. Irish replied the City had not seen evidence of property values fluctuating due to these issues. Kratch asked if making the street a one-way street had been considered. Irish explained making the street a one-way would not resolve the emergency vehicle access problem. Pierce indicated his choice of options would be A2 due to ease of enforcing parking restrictions and the likelihood of neighbors self-restricting parking because violators will be obvious.
Coburn made a motion for the Commission to recommend to Council option A2 for alleviating the parking issues on Takena Street. The motion was seconded by Greene, the motion passed unanimously. Irish described the process and time line for presenting a memo indicating the Commission’s recommendation City Council.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Morse Lane traffic calming request (verbal status report)

Irish described the area being considered for traffic calming and gave an update regarding the neighborhood meeting which took place earlier in the month. Irish explained the process the neighborhood will go through in order to be considered for the Traffic Calming Program. Irish gave an overview of the costs that will be shared between the City and the neighborhood if this program is implemented. Kratch asked where the City’s Traffic Calming Program could be viewed. Irish directed him to the City’s web page for a complete program outline. Kratch asked if the Police Departments radar sign had been used for the collection of speed data. Woodward said they were waiting until they could compile data regarding traffic circles before obtaining speed data. Irish suggested that traffic tubes would be a better option for determining speed of vehicles in the area. Kratch reminded everyone that the neighborhood said most of the issues occurred during the weekend and evening hours. Kratch asked that speed data be collected. Pierce commented that the Police Department received complaints from this neighborhood on weekends regarding traffic noise (“loud engines”) in the last two weeks; he felt the issue in this area could be noise related instead of excessive speed. He suggested the louder cars could be traveling at a lower rate of speed than the engine noise would indicate. Pierce described the differences between the road conditions on Belmont and Morse Lane.

OTHER BUSINESS

Kratch asked if any new subjects were being directed to the Commission from City Council. Irish said the new Traffic SDC (Systems Development Charge) charges had been passed by Council at the last work session. Irish reviewed again the ODOT (Oregon Department of Transportation) plan to widen I-5 from the South Jefferson interchange south to the Highway 20 interchange sometime in the future. He was not aware of additional subjects related to the Traffic Safety Commission being discussed.

At 11:00 a.m. Coburn excused herself from the meeting; at that point a quorum was no longer met.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting has been scheduled for April 4, 2011, at 10:00 a.m., in the Periwinkle Room.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting concluded at 11:00 a.m. when Irene Coburn left the meeting and a quorum was no longer met.

Respectfully submitted,

Melissa Steiner, Public Works Clerk III