

Memo

To: Tupelo City Council
From: Tupelo Traffic Committee
Subject: Review/Approve Traffic Committee Minutes of February 11, 2021
Date: March 10, 2021

Attached are the minutes of the Traffic Committee Meeting on February 11, 2021. The following is a summary of their actions.

Old Business:

1. A request from Mr. Eli Smart, 1771 Morningside Drive, elijahsmart708@gmail.com, to lower the speed limit in the Shady Acres neighborhood.

Action: Approved

2. A request from Ms. Lindsey Cochran, Tel. 662-422-9007, for the installation of 40 mph speed limits signs on Heardtown Road.

Action: Postponed

3. A request from Ms. Sherry Salley, 1408 Reed Street, Tel. 662-321-1530, for the installation of speed tables on Reed Street.

Action: Approved (Must get 50% approval and show means of payment)

4. A request from Ms. Melissa Nolan, 1503 Martinhill Drive, Tel. 662-231-9063, tupelomelissa@gmail.com, for the installation of speed tables on Martinhill Drive.

Action: Denied

5. A request from Ms. Regina Todd, Tel. 662-844-2268, for help with speeding on Lumpkin at Kincannon. Ms. Todd owns 5 duplex apartments on N. Lumpkin by Native Son Farm.

Action: Tabled

New Business:

1. A request from Mr. Jonathan Willis, 2646 Smokehouse Circle, Tel. 662-397-9996, to address the traffic committee in opposition of the new stop signs at St. Andrews and Purnell Road.

Action: Tabled

2. A request from Ms. Esther Sanders, 234 Greenbriar Road, Tel. 662-321-2888, to address the traffic committee in opposition to the new stop signs at St. Andrews and Purnell Road.

Action: Tabled

3. A request from The North MS Leftist Coalition to change the names of the following streets which they feel honor the Confederacy:

- Beauregard Street
- Breckinridge Street
- Buckner Avenue
- Confederate Avenue
- Rebel Drive
- Ewell Avenue
- Hampton Avenue
- Hood Avenue
- Jeb Stuart Street
- Stewart Drive
- Mosby Drive
- Pemberton Avenue
- Robert E Lee Drive
- Stephen D Lee Street
- Stonewall Circle

Action: Forwarded to admin and legal departments

4. A request from Ms. Lois Wise, 8 Oxford Square, Tel. 662-372-2999, for the installation of a “No Right Turn on Red” sign westbound on Garfield Street at the intersection of Gloster Street.

Action: Denied

5. A request from Ms. Frances Valentine, 1412 Reed Street, Tel. 662-760-3435, for the installation of a “No Parking” sign in front of her mailbox.

Action: Denied

6. A request from Ms. Wendy McFerrin, Tel. 662-687-0225, for the installation of “No Parking” signs in front of 405 & 411 Magazine Street (in front of these addresses and on the same side of the street).

Action: No action needed

7. A request from Mr. Adam Byars, 400 Ione Street, Tel. 662-397-5200, for the installation of “No Littering” signs with a stated fine on Ione Street.

Action: Referred to code enforcement

8. A request from the Wilemon Acres Neighborhood Association, Ms. Sherry Rutledge, Tel. 662-231-9566, arutledge@comcast.net, for the installation of speed tables and/or “Children At Play” signs on Thomas Street, N. Foster Street and other streets in the area.

Action: Denied

9. A request from Ms. Ashley Benjamin, 1312 Pinecrest Drive, Tel. 662-871-9336, for the installation of “Children At Play” signs at the top and bottom of Pinecrest Drive.

Action: Approved

10. A request from Mr. Robert Hereford, 204 Kenny Vaughan Road, Tel. 662-841-5615, for the installation of stop signs to make the intersection of Countrywood Road and Road 1500 a 4-way stop.

Action: Denied stop sign, Approved “Intersection Ahead” sign

11. A request from Ms. Jean Carruthers, 1002 Hilda Avenue, Tel. 662-260-0809, to reduce the speed limit on Hilda Avenue. The current posted speed limit is 20 mph.

Action: Denied

12. A request from Mr. Bruce Tucker, Tel. 662-681-6125, for the installation of a 20 mph speed limit on Sherry Road.

Action: Approved

13. A request from Mr. Kevin Parks, 2421 Barnes Crossing Road, Tel. 630-674-5500, for the installation of a speed table on Barnes Crossing Road.

14. A request from Ms. Ann McMillan, c/o Joyner Neighborhood Association, for the installation of speed tables on Woodlawn. Also requesting lowering the speed limit to 20 mph.

Action: Denied speed tables, Approved lowered speed limit

15. A request from Ms. Tammy Gilmore, 2016 Kenmar Lane (Next to Hillsdale), Tel. 662-231-8171, for the installation of speed tables.

Action: Denied

16. A request from the Bristow Acres planning committee for the installation of the following:

- Marquette and Lumpkin – Flashing red light at stop sign
- George and W Jackson – Flashing caution light
- Lumpkin (Down by RR tracks) – Speed tables
- Marquette Street – Speed tables at both ends
- West and East Bristow – Speed tables at both ends
- George Street – Speed tables off hill at George and Lambard

Action: Denied speed tables and caution lights, Approved “Caution Intersection” signs

17. A request from Ms. Jennifer Itzep, 1603 S. Feemster Lake Road, Tel. 662-871-8226, email jenniferitzep@gmail.com, for the installation of speed tables on South Feemster Lake Road.

Action: Denied

18. A list of concerns from Ms. Joanna Megginson, Tel. 662-322-4886, about traffic on Country Club Road:

- a) Excessive speeding
- b) Road too narrow; asked about walking/bike lanes (cited Joyner neighborhood upgrades)
- c) There is no shoulder on the road; dangerous for walkers and bidders
- d) Safety concerns for children
- e) Installation of speed tables

Action: Denied speed tables, Approved request for additional TPD monitoring

19. A request from Ms. Delores Coleman, 1617 N. Green Street, Tel. 601-673-7606, for the installation of a reserved “Handicapped” parking space in front of her home.

Action: Refereed to Tupelo Housing Authority

20. A request from Ms. Sharon Miller, 402 Maynard Drive, Tel. 662-610-8721, for the installation of stop signs on Maynard Drive on both sides of her driveway. Her house is located across from the Torrey intersection.

Action: Denied

21. A request thru Mrs. Marilyn Vail for the installation of “Children At Play” signs on Bella Vista.

Action: Approved

22. A request from Mr. Matthew Kimbrough, 5402 Treetop Drive, Tel. 662-316-4285, for the installation of a flashing or lighted stop sign on Old Belden Circle at the northern loop.

Action: No action needed (MDOT)

23. A request from Mr. Don Lewis, COO, for the installation of a 4-way stop sign at the intersection of Park and Leake Streets.

Action: Postponed

24. A request from Ms. Sara Rutledge, President of the Wilemon Neighborhood Association, Tel. 662-231-9566, for the installation of a 4-way stop at the intersection of Thomas Street and Holmes or speed tables on Thomas Street.

Action: Denied 4-way stop and speed tables, Approved “Caution Intersection” sign

25. A request thru Mr. Mike Bryan, Councilman Ward 6, from Ms. Julie Smith, for installation of stop signs at the following intersections:

- a) Charleston Blvd and Market Street (Make a 4-way stop, currently 2-way)
- b) Charleston Gardens Drive and Charleston Blvd (Make a 3-way stop, currently only 1)
- c) Charleston Gardens Drive and Market Street (Make a 3-way stop, currently only 1)
- d) Installation of 20 mph speed limits signs

Action: Approved item d, Postponed items a, b and c

26. A request Mr. Stephens Daniel, Daniel Design Studio, 398 E Main Street, Suite 209, Tel. 662-260-4543, stephens@daniel-designstudio.com, for the installation of a “No Parking” sign in the alley off of Sherwood Avenue between Fire Station #1 and Carol Park.

Action: Approved

**MINUTES OF THE TUPELO TRAFFIC COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 11, 2021**

A regular meeting of the Tupelo Traffic Committee was held on February 11, 2021, at 9:00 am in the in the council chambers on the 2nd floor at City Hall. Members present were Mr. Jimmy Avery, Mr. Dennis Bonds, Mr. Norman Cruse, Mr. Jake Logan, Officer Phillip Sanderson, Mr. Barton Wynn, Mr. Emmitt Foster and Mrs. Pam Blassingame. Ms. Shanta Jones was present via Zoom. Mr. Mike Williams was absent.

Audience members were Mr. Johnny Timmons, Manager TW&L, Mr. Don Lewis, City COO, Mr. Chuck Williams, Director PW, Mr. Stephen Reed, City Attorney, Mr. Mike Bryan, Councilman Ward 6, Mrs. Julie Smith (NB # 25), and Mrs. Rosanne Roberts (NB # 25). Mr. Stephens Daniel (NB # 26) was present via Zoom.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Dennis Bonds.

Old Business

1. **A request from Mr. Eli Smart, 1771 Morningside Drive, elijahsmart708@gmail.com, to lower the speed limit in the Shady Acres neighborhood.**

Mr. Norman Cruse made a motion to reduce this speed limit to 25 mph. This motion was seconded by Mr. Jimmy Avery and it passed unanimously.

2. **A request from Ms. Lindsey Cochran, Tel. 662-422-9007, for the installation of 40 mph speed limit signs on Hearstown Road.**

It was stated that the south side of Hearstown Road is in the city and the north side is in the county. Mr. Dennis Bonds made a motion to postpone this item and allow him to speak with the county supervisor about the current speed limit. Mr. Norman Cruse seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

3. **A request from Ms. Sherry Salley, 1408 Reed Street, Tel. 662-321-1530, for the installation of speed tables on Reed Street.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds noted that Reed Street is defined as a residential street and, therefore, would qualify for a speed table. It was also noted that, as required in the TC Policies and Procedures, Ms. Salley would be required to get 50% approval of the affected homeowners (signed petition) and show means of payment. Mr. Jimmy Avery made a motion to approve this request which was seconded by Mr. Norman Cruse. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **A request from Ms. Melissa Nolan, 1503 Martinhill Drive, Tel. 662-231-9063, tupelomelissa@gmail.com, for the installation of speed tables on Martinhill Drive.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds noted that Martinhill Drive is classified as a local road and does not qualify for a speed table.

5. **A request from Ms. Regina Todd, Tel. 662-844-2268, for help with speeding on Lumpkin at Kincannon. Ms. Todd owns 5 duplex apartments on N. Lumpkin by Native Son Farm.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds noted that Lumpkin is classified as a local road and does not qualify for speed tables. Officer Sanderson stated that with COVID restrictions lessening, the police department will be able to do more speed monitoring and that should help the situation. He also noted that the speed limit on Lumpkin is 30 mph. Mr. Norman Cruse made a motion to table this item. Jimmy Avery seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

New Business

1. **A request from Mr. Jonathan Willis, 2646 Smokehouse Circle, Tel. 662-397-9996, to address the traffic committee in opposition of the new stop signs at St. Andrews and Purnell Road.**

Mr. Willis was not present to discuss this item. Mr. Dennis Bonds made a motion to table this item which was seconded by Mr. Norman Cruse. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **A request from Ms. Esther Sanders, 234 Greenbriar Road, Tel. 662-321-2888, to address the traffic committee in opposition to the new stop signs at St. Andrews and Purnell Road.**

Ms. Sanders was not present to discuss this item. Mr. Dennis Bonds made a motion to table this item which was seconded by Mr. Norman Cruse. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **A request from The North MS Leftist Coalition to change the names of the following streets which they feel honor the Confederacy:**

- **Beauregard Street**
- **Breckinridge Street**
- **Buckner Avenue**
- **Confederate Avenue**
- **Rebel Drive**
- **Ewell Avenue**
- **Hampton Avenue**
- **Hood Avenue**
- **Jeb Stuart Street**
- **Stewart Drive**
- **Mosby Drive**
- **Pemberton Avenue**
- **Robert E Lee Drive**
- **Stephen D Lee Street**
- **Stonewall Circle**

Mr. Dennis Bonds and Mr. Norman Cruse noted that this is not a traffic issue. Therefore, Mr. Jimmy Avery made a motion to forward this item to the admin and legal departments. The motion was seconded by Officer Sanderson and it passed unanimously.

4. **A request from Ms. Lois Wise, 8 Oxford Square, Tel. 662-372-2999, for the installation of a “No Right Turn on Red” sign westbound on Garfield Street at the intersection of Gloster Street.**

Officer Sanderson stated that Walgreens has trimmed their bushes which has improved the sight at this intersection. A motion to deny this request was made by Mr. Norman Cruse and seconded by Mr. Jimmy Avery. The motion passed unanimously.

5. **A request from Ms. Frances Valentine, 1412 Reed Street, Tel. 662-760-3435, for the installation of a “No Parking” sign in front of her mailbox.**

Mr. Jake Logan made a motion to deny this request. The motion was seconded by Mr. Jimmy Avery and passed unanimously.

6. **A request from Ms. Wendy McFerrin, Tel. 662-687-0225, for the installation of “No Parking” signs in front of 405 & 411 Magazine Street (in front of these addresses and on the same side of the street).**

Mr. Chuck Williams and Mr. Jake Logan noted that these signs have already been installed. Therefore, no action was needed by the Traffic Committee.

7. **A request from Mr. Adam Byars, 400 Ione Street, Tel. 662-397-5200, for the installation of “No Littering” signs with a stated fine on Ione Street.**

Mr. Jake Logan made a motion to refer this item to code enforcement. Mr. Jimmy Avery seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

8. **A request from the Wilemon Acres Neighborhood Association, Ms. Sherry Rutledge, Tel. 662-231-9566, arutledge@comcast.net, for the installation of speed tables and/or “Children At Play” signs on Thomas Street, N. Foster Street and other streets in the area.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds noted that Thomas Street is classified as a collector and N. Foster Street is classified as a local street. Therefore, these do not qualify for speed tables. Mr. Barton Wynn made a motion to deny this item. Mr. Jake Logan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

9. **A request from Ms. Ashley Benjamin, 1312 Pinecrest Drive, Tel. 662-871-9336, for the installation of “Children At Play” signs at the top and bottom of Pinecrest Drive.**

Mr. Barton Wynn observed that only one sign will be needed. Mr. Barton Wynn made a motion to approve this request. The motion was seconded by Officer Sanderson and it was unanimously approved.

10. **A request from Mr. Robert Hereford, 204 Kenny Vaughan Road, Tel. 662-841-5615, for the installation of stop signs to make the intersection of Countrywood Road and Road 1500 a 4-way stop.**

Mr. Jake Logan stated that he lives in this area and goes thru this intersection regularly. Officer Sanderson made a motion to deny installation of the stop signs and approve the installation of "Intersection Ahead" signs. Mr. Jimmy Avery seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

11. **A request from Ms. Jean Carruthers, 1002 Hilda Avenue, Tel. 662-260-0809, to reduce the speed limit on Hilda Avenue. The current posted speed limit is 20 mph.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds stated that the lowest speed limit allowed on a road classified as local is 20 mph. Therefore, Mr. Avery made a motion to deny this request. This motion was seconded by Officer Sanderson and it passed unanimously.

12. **A request from Mr. Bruce Tucker, Tel. 662-681-6125, for the installation of a 20 mph speed limit on Sherry Road.**

Mr. Jake Logan made a motion to approve this request since Sherry Road is a local road and qualifies for the 20 mph. Mr. Emmitt Foster seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

13. **A request from Mr. Kevin Parks, 2421 Barnes Crossing Road, Tel. 630-674-5500, for the installation of a speed table on Barnes Crossing Road.**

Barnes Crossing Road is a local a road and does not qualify for speed tables. Mr. Jimmy Avery made a motion to deny this request. Mr. Jake Logan seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

14. **A request from Ms. Ann McMillan, c/o Joyner Neighborhood Association, for the installation of speed tables on Woodlawn. Also requesting lowering the speed limit to 20 mph.**

Woodlawn is a residential street. Mr. Jake Logan made a motion to approve lowering the speed limit to 20 mph and deny the speed tables (due to the length of the street). Mr. Jimmy Avery seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

15. **A request from Ms. Tammy Gilmore, 2016 Kenmar Lane (next to Hillsdale), Tel. 662-231-8171, for the installation of speed tables.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds made a motion to deny this request since Kenmar Lane is a local road and does not qualify for speed tables. Mr. Jimmy Avery seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

16. **A request from the Bristow Acres planning committee for the installation of the following:**

- **Marquette and Lumpkin – Flashing red light at stop sign**
- **George and W Jackson – Flashing caution light**
- **Lumpkin (Down by RR tracks) – Speed tables**
- **Marquette Street – Speed tables at both ends**
- **West and East Bristow – Speed tables at both ends**
- **George Street – Speed tables off hill at George and Lambard**

Mr. Dennis Bonds noted that all these streets are local or collectors and not eligible for speed tables. Mr. Jake Logan stated that flashing red lights or caution lights are only allowed on major thoroughfares, but he can install “Caution Intersection” signs. A motion to approve installation of the “Caution Intersection” signs and deny the rest was made by Mr. Dennis Bonds. Mr. Jimmy Avery seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

17. **A request from Ms. Jennifer Itzep, 1603 S. Feemster Lake Road, Tel. 662-871-8226, email jenniferitzep@gmail.com, for the installation of speed tables on South Feemster Lake Road.**

Mr. Dennis Bonds made a motion to deny this request since Feemster Lake Road is a local road and does not qualify for speed tables. Mr. Jimmy Avery seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

18. **A list of concerns from Ms. Joanna Megginson, Tel. 662-322-4886, about traffic on Country Club Road:**

- a) **Excessive speeding**
- b) **Road too narrow; asked about walking/bike lanes (cited Joyner neighborhood upgrades)**
- c) **There is no shoulder on the road; dangerous for walkers and bikers**
- d) **Safety concerns for children**
- e) **Installation of speed tables**

Mr. Barton Wynn observed that this is a very established neighborhood with no new houses or additions for quite a while. Mr. Dennis Bonds made a motion to deny the speed tables (local road) and request additional monitoring of the speed by the police department. This motion was seconded by Mr. Norman Cruse and it passed unanimously.

19. **A request from Ms. Delores Coleman, 1617 N. Green Street, Tel. 601-673-7606, for the installation of a reserved “Handicapped” parking space in front of her home.**

Mr. Jake Logan made a motion to refer this item to the Tupelo Housing Authority. Officer Sanderson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

20. **A request from Ms. Sharon Miller, 402 Maynard Drive, Tel. 662-610-8721, for the installation of stop signs on Maynard Drive on both sides of her driveway. Her house is located across from the Torrey intersection.**

Mr. Jake Logan made a motion to deny this request which was seconded by Officer Sanderson. The motion passed unanimously.

21. **A request thru Mrs. Marilyn Vail for the installation of “Children At Play” signs on Bella Vista.**

Mr. Jake Logan noted that a sign is already installed on the west end of Bella Vista and made a motion to install one on the other end. Mr. Dennis Bonds seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

22. **A request from Mr. Matthew Kimbrough, 5402 Treetop Drive, Tel. 662-316-4285, for the installation of a flashing or lighted stop sign on Old Belden Circle at the northern loop.**

MDOT is already in the process of purchasing these stop signs and the city has agreed to install them. Therefore, no action was needed by the Traffic Committee.

23. **A request from Mr. Don Lewis, COO, for the installation of a 4-way stop sign at the intersection of Park and Leake Streets.**

There are temporary signs here now due to the detour because of the construction on Jackson Street. Mr. Lewis would like to make these permanent and include the intersection of Magnolia and Leake Streets. Mr. Dennis Bonds made a motion to postpone this item and allow a traffic count and warrant analysis to be conducted. Mr. Emmitt Foster seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

24. **A request from Ms. Sara Rutledge, President of the Wilemon Neighborhood Association, Tel. 662-231-9566, for the installation of a 4-way stop at the intersection of Thomas Street and Holmes or speed tables on Thomas Street.**

Thomas Street does not qualify for speed tables. Mr. Jake Logan made a motion to deny a 4-way stop and approve the installation of an "Intersection Ahead" sign. Officer Sanderson seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

25. **A request thru Mr. Mike Bryan, Councilman Ward 6, from Ms. Julie Smith, for installation of stop signs at the following intersections:**

- a) **Charleston Blvd and Market Street (Make a 4-way stop, currently 2-way)**
- b) **Charleston Gardens Drive and Charleston Blvd (Make a 3-way stop, currently only 1)**
- c) **Charleston Gardens Drive and Market Street (Make a 3-way stop, currently only 1)**
- d) **Installation of 20 mph speed limits signs**

Mr. Mike Bryan, Ms. Julie Smith and Ms. Roseanne Roberts were present to discuss this item. Mr. Dennis Bonds and Mr. Jake Logan made a motion to approve the 20 mph speed limit signs and postpone items a, b and c to allow traffic counts and a warrant analysis to be conducted. The motion was seconded by Mr. Norman Cruse and it passed unanimously.

26. **A request Mr. Stephens Daniel, Daniel Design Studio, 398 E Main Street, Suite 209, Tel. 662-260-4543, stephens@daniel-designstudio.com, for the installation of a "No Parking" sign in the alley off of Sherwood Avenue between Fire Station #1 and Carol Park.**

Mr. Stephens Daniel was present via Zoom to discuss this item. Mr. Daniel stated that the alley is only one lane wide. Officer Phillip Sanderson noted that per state statute, parking in an alley is illegal anyway. Officer Sanderson made a motion to approve this request. It was seconded by Mr. Norman Cruse and passed unanimously.

Officer Phillip Sanderson announced to the committee his retirement from the Tupelo Police Department. Officer Patrick Johnson will be replacing him as a representative of TPD on the Traffic Committee. We wish Officer Sanderson the best and hope he enjoys his well deserved retirement!

With there being no further business, Mr. Norman Cruse made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Jimmy Avery seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Submitted By: *Pam Blassingame*