



**ORLAND PUBLIC WORKS & SAFETY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**Tuesday, October 10, 2023**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Meeting called to order by Chairperson David Kelly at 4:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Director of Public Works Ed Vonasek.

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners present: Commissioners Monica Rossman, James Paschall and Chairperson David Kelly  
Commissioner absent: Commissioners Emil Cavagnolo and Byron Denton  
Staff present: City Clerk/Commission Secretary Jennifer Schmitke; Public Works Director Ed Vonasek; Police Chief Joe Vlach; Fire Chief Justin Chaney

**ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Orlando local and Councilmember Matt Romano addressed the elimination of speed bumps in the 8th Street/Monterey area, expressing his desire for the City to implement traffic calming measures similar to the East Street striping. Director Vonasek then outlined the City's strategy, which includes installing flashing stop signs and implementing comparable striping on East Street.

City Clerk Jennifer Schmitke read an email from an Orland resident requesting that the City look into adding a four way stop at the intersection of South Street and Railroad.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

- A. Approve Public Works and Safety Minutes for August 8, 2023

Action: Commissioner Rossman moved, seconded by Commissioner Paschall, to approve the consent calendar as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote 3-0.

**PUBLIC WORKS**

**A. Public Works Department Update**

Director of Public Works Ed Vonasek gave an update on the DWR project sharing that Visinoni Brothers were chosen for the contractors in both Phase 2A and Phase 2B of the project, and that

hopefully the project starts soon. Director Vonasek stated that the storage tank is in the final review phase with state engineers and that the City is currently working with designers on the well design and building on Walker Street. Director Vonasek announced there will be an update to the eastside entrance of the Library within the next few months including a new ADA compliant entrance with automated doors and ramp and new decorations being provided by the Friends of the Library.

### **B. Street Traffic Calming Measures**

Director Vonasek spoke to the Commission about the current striping work that is being added to East Street. There will be special crosswalks near schools, new bike lanes, speed limit signs and diagonal parking added to the westside of the street. Director Vonasek shared that since the striping was put in traffic going north bound has slowed down and drivers have stayed in their lane. Director Vonasek stated he feels that the striping has calmed traffic without drastically changing the street structure and he believes these measures will be helpful for drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists. Director Vonasek shared he would like to recreate the same traffic calming measures on other main streets throughout the community.

Commissioner Rossman stated the new striped road is easy to drive on and thinks it is a great improvement for the community.

Commissioners discussed with City Staff what bulb outs are and their purpose.

Director Vonasek asked Commissioners to drive around and make notes on areas or roads that need attention, then email him or the Public Works department so they can get the issue taken care of.

### **C. Precision Concrete Sidewalk Cutting**

Director Vonasek presented to the Commission a proposed recommendation to take to City Council for approval, of an agreement with Precision Concrete Cutting (PPC). The agreement would allow the City to create a sidewalk maintenance plan which would include ADA ramps, replacing sidewalks, curbs, gutters, and possible safe routes to school. PPC has a proven, patented, proprietary process with no comparable competitors in the marketplace. PCC will generate a GIS compliant report that will enable the City to be financially informed of costs associated with needed repairs and will give the City information that may be utilized in future grant proposals and other transportation related projects. Director Vonasek shared an example of an assessment report from a nearby town and displayed the cost of the proposal.

Action: Commissioner Rossman moved, seconded by Commissioner Paschall, to recommend to City Council to approve the agreement with Precision Concrete Cutting. Motion carried by a voice vote 3-0.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

### **A. Police Department Update**

Police Chief Joe Vlach briefly updated the Commission on Phase 2 of the surveillance card access and security for the Library and Carnegie center are in the beginning stages of planning. Chief Vlach stated that the new roof at City Hall/Police Department is now completed. Chief Vlach shared that there are two candidates almost through the hiring process for the two open police officer positions. If both candidates pass their background testing, they will attend the police academy in January 2024.



**B. Request for Orland Unified School District: Consideration of Stop sign at East South Street and Walnut Ave**

Chief Vlach shared that he and City Manager Carr recently met with Orland Unified School District (OUSD) Superintendent Victor Perry and one board member where they requested new stop signs and crosswalks at the E. South Street and Walnut Avenue intersection.

Angela Jones, Orland Unified School District crossing guard for Fairview school addressed her concerns and experiences with traffic while assisting students at the intersection in front of Fairview.

Commissioner Rossman shared that she passed the intersection daily and commended Ms. Jones for all she does to keep the students safe.

Chief Vlach highlighted that police officers, even during their off-duty hours, have observed traffic hazards. Taking proactive measures, they venture out in police cars, effectively prompting people to exhibit their best behavior when a law enforcement presence is felt. Chief Vlach conveyed that the police department faces a challenge due to insufficient officers available for patrolling school areas during drop-off and pick-up times. In response to this concern, Chief Vlach recommended that the staff explore potential traffic calming measures from East Street to Fairview School.

Commissioner Paschall asked if flashing stop signs would work for this intersection. Chief Vlach shared that he felt flashing stop sign would work but the traffic flow could be an issue with the additional signs. Director Vonasek stated that staff needs to look into additional traffic calming measures such as no drop off zone in that area or no parking on certain sides of the street to help eliminate the back up of traffic. Chairperson Kelly asked if the buses could only turn eastbound when leaving the school to help eliminate buses backing up. Commissioners Paschall, Rossman and Kelly agreed that additional stop signs would be helpful but didn't see where the stop signs would alleviate traffic backing up. Commissioners Paschall and Kelly suggested working with the OUSD to come up with additional traffic calming options that could help with traffic.

Director Vonasek asked Commissioners to go by during drop off and pick up times to see the traffic and hazards.

Action: Commissioner Rossman moved, seconded by Commissioner Paschall, to recommend to City Council to approve the new stop signs at E. South Street and Walnut Avenue.

Councilmember Romano stated he likes the addition of stop signs but would like to see traffic calming measures on E. South Street as well.

Commissioner Rossman amended her first motion.

Action: Commissioner Rossman moved, seconded by Commissioner Paschall, to recommend to City Council to approve traffic calming measures and new stop signs at E. South Street and Walnut Avenue. Motion carried by a voice vote 3-0.

**C. Fire Department Update**

Fire Chief Justin Chaney gave a brief update from the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) ad hoc Committee. Chief Chaney spoke about an arson fire that took place in the Creek during the weekend. Chief Chaney shared that the Fire Department currently has 42 active volunteers and 3 prospective

volunteers. Assistant Fire Chief/Chairperson Kelly shared that there have been 570 calls this year. Chief Chaney stated that Awards Night will be in December and ladies' night will be in March.

**GENERAL**

The next Public Works and Safety meeting is scheduled for December 12, 2023.

**COMMISSIONER REPORTS**

Commissioner Rossman:

- Nothing to report.

Commissioner Paschall:

- Nothing to report.

Chairperson Kelly

- Thanked Dutch Bros. for changing their drive thru line-up making the area 100% safer for patrons and workers.

**MEETING ADJOURNED AT 4:50 PM**



Jennifer Schmitke, City Clerk



David Kelly, Chairperson