



**AMENDED - MINUTES
CITY OF FRONTENAC
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2009, 7:00 PM**

A. **CALL TO ORDER:** The special meeting of the Public Works Commission was called to order at 7:02 p.m.

B. **ROLL CALL:** The members present were:

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| ✓ Mr. Mike Thaman, Chairman | ✓ Mr. Chris Kehr |
| ✓ Alderman Jon Serkes | ✓ Mr. Ron Karst |
| ✓ Mr. John Conroy | ✓ Mr. Bill Yarger |
| ✓ Mr. Jamie Griesedieck | |

Also present were City Administrator Bob Shelton, Public Works Director, Jeff Wappelhorst, Police Chief Tom Becker and Fire Chief Jack Trout.

C. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Mr. Mike Thaman asked for a motion to approve tonight's agenda.

MOTION: Mr. Chris Kehr motioned and Mr. John Conroy seconded the approval of tonight's agenda. All Commissioners present voted "Aye". There were no "Nay" votes. **MOTION PASSED.**

D. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mr. Mike Thaman asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the October 14, 2009 meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Chris Kehr motioned to approve and Alderman Jon Serkes seconded the approval of the October 14, 2009 meeting minutes. All Commissioners present voted "Aye". There were no "Nay" votes. **MOTION PASSED.**

E. **PUBLIC FORUM: (PRESENTATION OF REMARKS AND/OR PETITIONS)**

1. Clayton Road Striping Presentation

Chairman Thaman requested Chief Tom Becker to give his perspective on the Clayton Road striping. Chief Becker stated that the center turn lane is the most efficient and allows a buffer for turns; traffic stops and helps avoid rear end motor vehicle accidents. Chief Becker continued by stating that with no center lane it would give bicyclists a clearer path. Also, the motor vehicle accidents have decreased between Spoede and Bopp Roads with the addition of the center turn lane. Chief Becker reported that within 2009 the City has only had three accidents and the year before we had nine.

Chairman Thaman asked what would be the best case scenario if we had a clean slate and open budget. Chief Becker responded that the best would be to widen Clayton Road with standard width and a center turn lane with shoulder. Alderman Serkes asked if the City will still be keeping the miles per hour continuous with sister cities. Chief Becker stated yes. Chairman Thaman asked how the traffic flow has been since our portion of Highway 40 is now open. Chief Becker responded that we currently have a decreased traffic flow of around 80 to 85%.

Mr. Shelton stated that St. Louis County had threatened to take over Clayton Road as part of I-64 work but it had since been removed from their agenda. Mr. Shelton further explained that St. Louis County reached agreement with the cities to return it back to two lanes at no cost to the City. Mr. Shelton continued with his presentation explaining the roadwork that would need to be accomplished to meet the best case scenario would be an estimated \$700,000.00 unbudgeted expense to the City.

2. Public Comment Regarding Striping

Fred Ross on Clayton Road – Expressed that seeing Clayton go back two lanes because of pedestrian safety and the mailboxes being too close to the road.

John Cordeal at 11216 Hermitage Hill – Expressed that he is a bike rider and for safety purposes having Clayton return to two lanes.

Norm Warner of Terrace Gardens – Expressed to keep Clayton Road to three lanes including the turning lane for safety reasons.

Julie Bergfeld at 1412 S. Spoede Road – Expressed to put Clayton Road back to being two lanes.

George Murray of 11201 Hermitage Hill Place – Expressed he is a biker and walker and stated that hundreds of bicyclists use Clayton Road daily. He would prefer the two lane option over the three lanes without the shoulder. He also stated that he walk's to Starbucks and Sugo's and it is very dangerous with the one foot shoulder.

Ron Tennenbaum of Terrace Gardens – Stated that his home faces Clayton Road and he likes watching all the people using Clayton. There are a lot more ruts in his property now with no shoulder to use and he is in favor of returning Clayton Road to two lanes.

Lee Murray of 11201 Hermitage Hill Place – Stated that with the reading of the comprehensive plan there was a 50% favorable response to having walkable and bikeable areas in Frontenac. She is in favor of returning Clayton Road to its previous state of two lanes.

Bobbi Luber of Clayton Road – Expressed her opinion to keep Clayton Road at three lanes. She also stated that she too rides a bicycle and goes to the park to ride because of the traffic flow on Clayton Road.

Jim Vaughn at 11322 Conway Road – Expressed to widen to three lanes and that the County has done a great job.

Steve Jacobs of Golddust – Expressed to return Clayton Road back to two lanes. He stated that bikes have been on Clayton for about 20 years and that drivers have been configured not to look out for walkers or joggers with three (3) lanes.

Bill Penton of 4 Devondale – Expressed that three (3) lanes is safer when the bikers decide to ride two (2) or three (3) abreast.

Janice Hawk of 11161 Clayton Road – Stated she has lived in Frontenac for 24 years and the extra turn lane helped with the I-64 construction but her mailbox has been taken out three times and she couldn't walk to the Frontenac Festival because of the three lanes and no shoulder. She would like Clayton Road to return to two lanes.

Herb Markwort of Huntleigh – Expressed that he drives through Frontenac all the time and takes his bike to the park to ride, but he like two (2) lanes.

Maria Pernon of 11635 Clayton Road at Bopp – Expressed that she jogs, bikes and hasn't felt safe in the past two years. She wanted to return the residents the way they had it at two lanes. She stated that bikes deserve to be on Clayton just as much as motor vehicles.

Helen Penton of 4 Devondale – Asked if we could apply for a grant to widen the road like Town & Country did?

F. OLD BUSINESS:

None at this time.

G. NEW BUSINESS:

1. Discussion of Clayton Road and Recommendation to the Board of Aldermen:

Chairman Thaman requested comments from our commission members. Mr. Yarger asked what the studies showed about Clayton Road being two lanes through-out the different municipalities. Mr. Wappelhorst stated that we do not have any of the other studies except for Frontenac. Mr. Wappelhorst stated that the preferred width of Clayton Road would be 11 feet per lane but we would need to do a study and make sure of the measurements. He explained that the current roadway is not made for the driving conditions that it currently holds.

Chairman Thaman asked if we should develop a consensus to traffic flow and the ideal would be three lanes, 11 foot with walkways and containing a center lane. He stated that with the limits of the budget the City only has two options. First being to repair the current conditions of the shoulders, remill and pave the current existing roadway and mill and overlay the shoulders for traffic or allow St. Louis County to resurface, restripe and return Clayton Road to its previous state at no additional cost to the City. Mr. Yarger reiterated that the City should make sure that there are ample left hand turn, pedestrian and bicycle lanes at Spoede, Bopp and Clayton Road Intersections.

MOTION: Mr. Chris Kehr motioned and Mr. John Conroy seconded the forwarding of Clayton Road to be returned to its original state of two lane striping by St. Louis County for approval by the Board of Aldermen. All Commissioners present voted "Aye". There were no "Nay" votes. **MOTION PASSED.**

H. **ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, December 9, 2009, 7:00 p.m.

I. **VOTE FOR ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Mike Thaman asked for a motion and second to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Mr. Chris Kehr motioned and Mr. Ron Karst seconded the meeting be adjourned. All Commission members present voted "Aye". The vote was unanimous. **MOTION PASSED.**

J. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:29 p.m.