Commission members & staff present:
  Terry Allen  Carl Nightengale
  Lonnie Sanner  Aaron Weimer
  Tom Takacs  Vern Wells
  Chris Hinds  Shawn Irvine

Absent:
  Beau Horn

Visitors:
  Bruce Marshall, of Independence.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:
  Unanimously approved as written.

VISITOR BUSINESS:
  Mr. Marshall attend our meeting, to observe.

OLD BUSINESS:

1) Gun Club Road & Hoffman Road intersection:
   Shawn Irvine met with Todd Whitaker, the new county Roadmaster on site to
   look at the Gun Club at Hoffman intersection. Shawn told us that they came up
   with some ideas for shifting the crossing closer to Hoffman but Mr. Whitaker was
   worried we’d have to move that power pole (very difficult and expensive).
   Shawn told us that he was going to look at it again because he thought we can do
   the project without having to move the pole.

   Polk County agrees improvements need to be made, and are waiting
   engineering approval. Shawn met with Mr. Whitaker in December 2010 and
   they agreed the project should move ahead.
2) The Central High School driveway and cross walk on Monmouth Street are very dark: Aaron Weimer, Public Works, had reported at an earlier meeting that the power pole by the crosswalk is owned by the City and he is investigating prices for lights. We can’t really use one light to cover both the crosswalk and driveway, so will focus first on crosswalk and maybe get a second light for the driveway.

Aaron reports there is a place for an area lamp on an existing pole, and the bid has been submitted to City Planning/Development. The bid was not approved, so Aaron will check with Pacific Power to increase lumens of a street light across the street.

3) Resident request for a stop sign on C and 4th Street because of congestion during pick-up hours at Independence Elementary School.

We are looking at other holistic options.

No further complaints – no further action.

4) Westbound traffic on Monmouth Street blocks the Central High driveway, which causes a big bottleneck in the center eastbound lane at heavy traffic times in the morning and afternoon. At times, the center-lane traffic is backed up enough to block the right-lane eastbound traffic. Some “do not block driveway” signage is recommended to be installed by ODOT on Highway 51 (Monmouth Street) at the entrance to the High School.

Carl will discuss options with Public Works regarding what and where for signs and/or paint. We will then submit the request to ODOT.

5) Several months ago, guest, Gwyn Bachtle, Oregon Child Development Collation (OCDC) noted there have been two crashes in the last three months by drivers running the stop signs on 5th and F Streets. She states that cars are parked too close to those corners, causing poor visibility, and suggests stop-bars. The Community Resource Officer is continuing to work with people in the area. An ordinance change request has been presented to City Council to extend yellow no-parking curb striping in Independence.

Waiting for the City Council review.

The no-parking within 15 feet of an intersection in now in effect, and officers are now warning violators.

No further action required.

6) Jill Pfaff brought her concerns of speeding around her mother’s home on Ash and 4th Streets. She also noted that the A Street and 4th Street’s crosswalks stop here.

She would like to see:
• 10-mph-ahead curve signs on Ash and 4th
• Bumpers in the middle of the street
• School busses not use 4th
* Get parents agree to a system of student drop off

Ms. Pfaff also told us that cars are flying down the alley by the Pfaff residence. These are most likely vehicles avoiding the student drop-off time. Another action that has helped prevent traffic bottlenecks in the area is school buses heading to HHES from Ash Street are bypassing 4th Street.

**New sidewalk completed and has striping. The IPW and TSC have completed our tasks.**

*No further action required.*

7) Resident wanted a dead-end sign installed on Marigold at Hyacinth Street for Morning Glory St. There are 57 houses on this two-block plus street with the only egress being Marigold

**Sign has been installed by Public Works.**

A further problem at this intersection is vehicles cutting the corner, coming dangerously close to opposite-direction vehicles. Double yellow-line striping was suggested by the committee.

Aaron will investigate.

**Double striping has been approved and will be completed when weather permits.**

*No further action required by the TSC.*

8) The bike sign on Gun Club road does not appear to be needed. This was there when the right lane was a "right turn only" and the left lane was a Straight or Left turn. Now the right lane goes straight or turns, meaning the bikes do not need to cross traffic as indicated in the sign.

**Public Works removed the sign.**

*No further action required.*

9) Resident complaint of “kids who ride their bikes to school on Polk/Hoffman Road. Between 07:30 and 07:45. They look to be Talmadge or Ash Creek MS age.” Her biggest concern is they swerve into traffic, and most don’t wear helmets. Extra IPD enforcement will continue for the area.

This concern will stay on the TSC agenda until it is no longer a problem.

**This complaint has been forwarded to Polk County, and no further local action required.**

10. There were complaints that school speed limit signs on Monmouth Street near CHS are different in each direction, one showing “speed limit 20 mph when children are present” and the other “speed limit 20 mph between 7 am and 5 pm.”

Aaron or Carl contacted the ODOT sign person to remedy the signs difference.

**Signs now match, no further action required.**

11. Warning-bumps at the swerve in Main Street near G St. have worn off.

Aaron will look for a better way to mark the road.

**New bumps will be added in the Spring.**
VI. NEW BUSINESS:

1) Resident complaint that Monmouth St. and Gun Club Road traffic signal does not allow a left turn between the hours of 15:15 and 15:45 (school release time.) According to the complainants if you are north or south bound on Gun club and want to turn left, you will face oncoming traffic. The light will cycle yellow then red without time to turn, then the cycle starts again. Carl observed the signal and it appeared to be working properly.

No further, no further action required.

2) Several complaints of the bump-outs at the Civic Center are hard to see, especially at night. Mike Danko reports curbing will be striped when weather permits.

Visibility markers have been installed. No further action required.

3) Complaint about the corner of the city/USPS parking lot and C street exit. The north exit curbing paint is no longer visible under the mould, and cars park too close to the egress, making it hard to see the turn. Requesting IPW action.

IPW will clean and stripe in the spring. No further TSC action required.

4) Complaint by marquis Spa that a crash took out the Stop and no-left-turn signs at the Hoffman and Stryker Roads intersection. IPW did their usual great job and the signs were replaced.

Completed. No further TSC action required.

5. The intersection of 13th and C Streets has no stops sign. The TS Committee recommend a sign be installed on NE 13th. Vehicles use these streets to avoid the Gun Club and Monmouth signal light.

IPW action will be to add a stop sign on 13th St. northbound at C Street.

6. When vehicles are southbound on 16th St. attempting to turn left onto Monmouth Street, they sometimes have to wait two or more cycles of the signal before they’re able to proceed. Aaron will see if ODOT can make it a preference-light.

CORRESPONDENCE/OTHER INFORMATION:

NEXT MEETING:
At the new Civic Center Building
555 S. Main St.
Ash Creek Conference Room.
Enter in the back (river side) of the building, take the stairs or elevator to the 3rd floor, then turn right (south.)