1. Call to Order

Chairman Gelfund called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. Pledge to the Flag

Chairman Gelfund led the Pledge to the Flag.

3. Roll-call

Present
Mr. Mark Bonner, Commissioner
Mr. Antonio Costantino, Commissioner
Mr. Donald Gelfund, Commission Chair
Ms. Georjean Nickell, Commissioner
Mr. Claude Petit, Commissioner
Mr. Scott Troiani, Commissioner

James Amelio, Village Engineer
Mr. Barry Bass, Village Trustee
Ashley Engelmann, Public Works Director
Robert LaMantia, Chief of Police
Andrew Letson, Assistant to the Public Works Director

Excused
Mr. James Lee, Commissioner

4. Report by Chair

Chairman Gelfund reported that the Traffic Commission is comprised of resident volunteers appointed by the Mayor and Village Board of Trustees to review, analyze, discuss, and recommend objective traffic safety initiatives to the Village Board.

5. Approval of Minutes

Commissioner Nickel moved to approve the minutes of December 17, 2015. Commissioner Troiani seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.
6. Unfinished Business

None

7. New Business

a. Consideration of a Request by Lincolnwood School District 74 to implement a temporary traffic plan to accommodate construction at Lincoln Hall

Chief LaMantia reported that Lincolnwood School District 74 submitted a request to temporarily reroute traffic to Hamlin Avenue for six weeks in the spring and several weeks in the fall to accommodate construction at Lincoln Hall.

School District 74 and Village staff recommends bus traffic be routed southbound on Hamlin Avenue, eastbound on Pratt Avenue, northbound on East Prairie Avenue, westbound on John Cahill Drive, southbound to the Pratt Avenue Exit (across from Harding Avenue), and westbound on Pratt Avenue.

School District 74 and Village staff recommends passenger vehicle (parents) be routed southbound on East Prairie Avenue, to eastbound on Morse Avenue and then either northbound or southbound on Hamlin Avenue.

Chief LaMantia stated that School District 74 and the Police Department will be visibly present to monitor and assist the motoring public both during the morning drop off and afternoon pick-up.

Seven residents attended the meeting and the following four people spoke. The following is a summary (not verbatim) of their individual comments.

Ms. Joanna Weinstein
Cherry Lane
Ms. Weinstein stated she has two children, one at Todd Hall and one at Rutledge Hall and there are a lot of parents violating signs. The crossing guards cannot control the parents. Parents still drop their children off on Morse Avenue. We are going to need a lot of enforcement by the Police Department. Ms. Weinstein suggested temporary no outlet signs on both Cherry Lane and Avers Lane.

Mr. Michael Krell
Cherry Lane
Mr. Krell stated his is a longtime resident, lives on Cherry Lane near Avers Avenue. He said parking is moderately heavy and obviously someone is going to be inconvenienced by the construction. Mr. Krell said that there are no homes on the south side of Lunt Avenue, east of East Prairie
Avenue, so that should be designated as the drop-off and pick-up area. It will result in no minimum impact on Morse Avenue.

Mrs. Krell  
Cherry Lane  
Mrs. Krell stated she has lived on Cherry Lane for 35 years. Parents routinely enter Morse Avenue from Hamlin Avenue even though it is posted One Way – Do Not Enter. Everyone thinks they are special. Parents also park on Avers Avenue and walk their children to school. Some of the cars parked on Morse Avenue never move. It is difficult to get in and out of Cherry Lane.

Mr. Paul Domer  
Cherry Lane  
Mr. Domer moved to Cherry Lane 10 years ago and he has an issue with cars parking on Morse Avenue. He would like to have access to Morse Avenue without the traffic from School District 74. He believes the south side of Lunt Avenue, east of East Prairie Avenue is a better location for parents to drop off and pick up their children.

b. Consideration of blinking LED stop signs for northbound Navajo Avenue and southbound LeClaire Avenue at Pratt Avenue traffic

Ms. Engelmann reported on blinking Light Emitting Diodes (LED) stop signs. The signs are approximately $3,200 for a pair, 36” wide, relatively simple to install, solar powered, MUTCD compliant, and visible up to two miles at night. The blinking function can be timed and/or turned off for specific hours and there is an option for a motion detector. However, the option is $10,000.00.

Mr. Letson set-up a demonstration model for the Commission and community to view.

Chief LaMantia reported letters were mailed to neighbors one block in each direction, 45 in all. One resident spoke at the meeting and opposed the LED blinking signs.

Ms. Janyce Agruss  
Nokomis Avenue  
In summary, Ms. Agruss stated she has lived in the neighborhood for 20 years and understands that Navajo Avenue and Pratt Avenue is a challenging corner. However, she does not feel like she should have to be punished with a blinking stop sign because of a few irresponsible drivers. Two of her bedrooms have windows that overlook the intersection and she does not want the disruption of blinking LED lights. Ms. Agruss suggested installing “Cross Traffic Does Not Stop” signs on the Navajo Avenue and LeClaire Avenue stop signs.
The Commission did not take action on this matter. However, staff was asked to let the Commission know of a location where the blinking LED lights have been installed so they could observe them first hand.

8. Public Forum

None

9. Report by Staff

None

10. Good of the Order

Commissioner Troiani moved to change the February 11, 2016 meeting to March 10, 2016. Commissioner Costantino seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

11. Adjournment

Commissioner Troiani moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 p.m. Commissioner Costantino seconded. The motion was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert LaMantia

Robert LaMantia
Chief of Police