THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

STAFF REPORT

Council Meeting Date: January 14, 2020

Subject: Speed Limit Changes

Staff Resource(s): Ken Putnam, Transportation Department Director

Action Requested: Adoption of an ordinance changing the posted speed limit along several streets within the City of Asheville.

Background:

- N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-141 gives the City the authority to regulate speed limits within its corporate limits.
- City staff received requests from citizens to consider changes to the speed limits.
- City staff performed appropriate traffic-engineering studies along the various streets.
- Staff will bring speed limit changes to City Council on a quarterly cycle in an effort to improve the efficiency of the approval process.
- West Haywood Street, from Park Avenue North to Roberts Street will be changed to 20 miles per hour.
- The following streets will be changed to 25 miles per hour:
    - Asbury Road, from Wolfe Cove Road to Bassett Road
    - Bassett Road, from Wolfe Cove Road to Spooks Branch Road
    - Bearden Avenue, from Cumberland Avenue to Montford Avenue
    - Briarcliff Drive, from SR 3503 (Overlook Road) to Stancliff Drive
    - Buffalo Street, from Burton Street to a point 320 feet north of Ohio Street
    - Cameron Street, from Arlington Street to NC 694 (Town Mountain Road)
    - Creasman Place, from Selwyn Road to a point 550 feet north of Selwyn Road
    - Elizabeth Street, from Broadway to Cumberland Avenue
    - Fawn Drive, from Briarcliff Drive to Oakwilde Drive
    - Forsythe Drive, from Woodrow Avenue to North Street
    - Hampstead Road, from Manetta Road to Country Club Road
    - Hilliard Avenue, from West Haywood Street to SR 3548 (Clingman Avenue)
    - Oakwilde Drive, from Briarcliff Drive to a point 650 feet west of Stancliff Drive
    - Selwyn Place, from Selwyn Road to a point 300 feet north of Selwyn Road
    - Thompson Street, from US 25 (Hendersonville Road) to a point 750 feet north of Glendale Avenue
    - West Haywood Street, from Hilliard Avenue to Park Avenue North
    - West Street, from Forsythe Avenue to North Street
    - Windswept Drive, from College Street to Alexander Drive
- The Asheville Police Department concurs with the changes.

Council Goal(s):

- Transportation and Accessibility.

Committee(s):

- None

Pro(s):

- City staff has been able to respond favorably to citizen requests.
- The new speed limits will be consistent with streets of like characteristics and design.
- Based on the 85th percentile speeds, most drivers would adhere to the recommended speed limits on these streets.

Con(s):

- None

Fiscal Impact:

- The cost of installing and maintaining speed limit signs is included in the current operating budget.

Suggested Motion:

- Motion to approve an ordinance enacting (1) a 20 mph speed limit on West Haywood Street from Park Avenue North to Roberts Street; and (2) a 25 mph speed limit on Asbury Road, from Wolfe Cove Road to Bassett Road, Bassett Road, from Wolfe Cove Road to Spooks Branch Road, Bearden Avenue, from Cumberland Avenue to Montford Avenue, Briarcliff Drive, from SR 3503 (Overlook Road) to Stancliff Drive, Buffalo Street, from Burton Street to a point 320 feet north of Ohio Street, Cameron Street, from Arlington Street to NC 694 (Town Mountain Road), Creasman Place, from Selwyn Road to a point 550 feet north of Selwyn Road, Elizabeth Street, from Broadway to Cumberland Avenue, Fawn Drive, from Briarcliff Drive to Oakwilde Drive, Forsythe Drive, from Woodrow Avenue to North Street, Hampstead Road, from Manetta Road to Country Club Road, Hilliard Avenue, from West Haywood Street to SR 3548 (Clingman Avenue), Oakwilde Drive, from Briarcliff Drive to a point 650 feet west of Stancliff Drive, Selwyn Place, from Selwyn Road to a point 300 feet north of Selwyn Road, Thompson Street, from US 25 (Hendersonville Road) to a point 750 feet north of Glendale Avenue, West Haywood Street, from Hilliard Avenue to Park Avenue North, West Street, from Forsythe Avenue to North Street, and Windswept Drive, from College Street to Alexander Drive.

Attachment:

- Ordinance

ORDINANCE NO. _____

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ARTICLE II, DIVISION 1, SECTIONS 23 AND 24 OF APPENDIX C OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE

WHEREAS the City of Asheville has the authority under N.C. Gen. Stat. § 20-141 to regulate speed limits within its corporate limits; and

WHEREAS the City Council has determined that the speed limit for a section of West Haywood Street should be set at twenty miles per hour; and

WHEREAS the City Council has determined that the speed limit for Asbury Road, Bassett Road, Bearden Avenue, Briarcliff Drive, Buffalo Street, Cameron Street, Creasman Place, Elizabeth Street, Fawn Drive, Forsythe Drive, Hampstead Road, Hilliard Avenue, Oakwilde Drive, Selwyn Place, Thompson Street, a section of West Haywood Street, West Street, and Windswept Drive should be set at twenty five miles per hour; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ASHEVILLE:

Section 1: That Article II, Division I, Section 23 (b) of Appendix C of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Asheville (Speed Limits – Twenty miles per hour, City system) be amended to remove:

Thompson Street, in its entirety

Section 2: That Article II, Division I, Section 23 (b) of Appendix C of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Asheville (Speed Limits – Twenty miles per hour, City system) be amended to include:

West Haywood Street, from Park Avenue North to Roberts Street

Section 3: That Article II, Division I, Section 24 (b) of Appendix C of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Asheville (Speed Limits – Twenty Five miles per hour, City system) be amended to include:

Asbury Road, from Wolfe Cove Road to Bassett Road

Bassett Road, from Wolfe Cove Road to Spooks Branch Road

Bearden Avenue, from Cumberland Avenue to Montford Avenue

Briarcliff Drive, from SR 3503 (Overlook Road) to Stancliff Drive

Buffalo Street, from Burton Street to a point 320 feet north of Ohio Street

Cameron Street, from Arlington Street to NC 694 (Town Mountain Road)

Creasman Place, from Selwyn Road to a point 550 feet north of Selwyn Road

Elizabeth Street, from Broadway to Cumberland Avenue

Fawn Drive, from Briarcliff Drive to Oakwilde Drive

Forsythe Drive, from Woodrow Avenue to North Street

Hampstead Road, from Manetta Road to Country Club Road

Hilliard Avenue, from West Haywood Street to SR 3548 (Clingman Avenue)

Oakwilde Drive, from Briarcliff Drive to a point 650 feet west of Stancliff Drive

Selwyn Place, from Selwyn Road to a point 300 feet north of Selwyn Road

Thompson Street, from US 25 (Hendersonville Road) to a point 750 feet north of Glendale Avenue

West Haywood Street, from Hilliard Avenue to Park Avenue North

West Street, from Forsythe Avenue to North Street

Windswept Drive, from College Street to Alexander Drive

Section 4: That all Ordinances or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed.

Section 5: That this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon adoption by the City of Asheville and the erection of signs giving notice of the authorized speed limit.

Read, approved and adopted this 14th day of January, 2020.

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City Clerk Mayor

Approved as to form:

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City Attorney