



*City of Rochester, New
Hampshire*

CITY COUNCIL

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

31 Wakefield Street □ Rochester, NH 03867

(603) 332-1167

www.RochesterNH.gov

August 9, 2023

TO: Public Safety Committee

REGARDING: Public Safety Committee Meeting

There will be a Public Safety Committee meeting **August 16, 2023** at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

AGENDA

1. Approve Minutes from July 19, 2023 Public Safety Meeting pages 1-2
2. Public Input
3. Salmon Falls Road Speed Limit Issue and Electronic Sign Placement (kept in committee)
4. Flashing Lights and Raised Table Policy Discussion (kept in committee)
5. Chestnut Street -Speed Control (kept in committee)
6. Highland Street Eastern Avenue- Left turn Green Light (kept in committee)
7. Rangeway Drive- Speed Bumps- (kept in committee)
8. Spring Street- Ballfield (kept in committee)
9. Speed Issues- Guidelines (kept in committee)
10. Sylvain Street – Sidewalk pages 3-5
11. Bernard Road- Speed Limit Request page 6
12. Bradley Court- Barrier page 7
13. Pickering Road/ Railroad Ave. page 8
14. Franklin St/ Wentworth St- Speed Limit page 9
15. Wentworth St/ Portland- Overgrowth page 9 (service request entered)
16. England Road- Speed Limit page 10
17. Other

cc.

Mayor and City Council
Chief Gary Boudreau
Deputy Chief Jason Thomas
Fire Chief Dennis Dube
Mr. Jarrod Norris
Mr. Timothy Goldthwaite
Ms. Lisa Clark

**Public Safety Committee
Draft Meeting Minutes
July 19, 2023
6:00 PM
Council Chambers**

Members Present

Councilor Peter Lachapelle, Chair
Councilor Alexander de Geofroy
Councilor Skip Gilman
Councilor Dana Berlin

Members Absent

Councilor Amy Malone

Others Present

Councilor Donald Hamann
Jarrod Norris, P.E. Assistant City Engineer
Gina Golden-Silvestro, GIS/AM Technician
Deputy Chief Jason Thomas, PD

Councilor Lachapelle brought the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

1. Approve Minutes from June 21, 2023 Public Safety Meeting

Councilor de Geofroy MOVED to approve the minutes from June 21, 2023. Councilor Gilman seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED by unanimous voice vote.

2. Public Input

No members of the public were present for public input.

3. Salmon Falls Road Speed Limit Issue and Electronic Sign Placement (kept in committee)

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue and asked if the committee would like to see what they do with speed tables downtown. Councilor Gilman stated he would like to leave it alone for now. **(kept in committee)**

4. Flashing Lights and Raised Table Policy Discussion (kept in committee)

Councilor Lachapelle stated that Director of City Services Peter Nourse had some concerns. Mr. Nourse requested attendance from the Fire Department be present at the meeting. There is no one present from the Fire Department to discuss. Councilor Lachapelle opens committee for discussion. Councilor Berlin discusses intent of draft policy. Councilor Hamann stated that he thinks it requires a further discussion and likes the idea of the public hearing point as well. Councilor Berlin stated the policy would require each individual request go to its own public hearing. Councilor Lachapelle will reach out requesting attendance from the Fire Department for the next meeting. **(kept in committee)**

5. Chestnut Street Speed Control (kept in committee).

Councilor Lachapelle stated this is a speed table concern that is being discussed. **(kept in committee).**

6. Highland Street / Eastern Avenue (kept in committee).

Mr. Norris summarized the issue. Mr. Norris stated this is a State controlled light. He reached out to NHDOT and expressed the concern, this is under review. Kept in committee Mr. Norris will provide an update to the committee at the next meeting.

7. Rangeway Drive

Councilor Lachapelle stated this is a speed table concern that is being discussed. **(kept in committee).**

8. Spring Street

Councilor Gilman summarized the issue. He spoke to residents that have a concern with the ballfield, balls are going out onto the road. Deputy Chief Thomas stated the City Manager is dealing with this issue with Chief Boudreau. Councilor Lachapelle stated he will follow up with the City Manager for an update. **(kept in committee)**

9. Other

Speeding Concern Procedural Guidelines

Councilor de Geofroy asked if it would be beneficial for the City to have a standard guideline on how to approach speeding complaints. This would be a standard process for the committee to follow to try to address the issue. Councilor Lachapelle asked if Councilor de Geofroy would like to draft something for the committee to discuss next month. Councilor de Geofroy stated he take a look at and welcomed everyone's input on different options. **(kept in committee).**

Downtown Speed Limit Signs

Councilor Berlin stated that the 25 mph speed limit signs have been put up recently downtown and he has noticed that people are going slower specifically by the high school.

Councilor Lachapelle ADJOURNED the meeting at 6:18 PM.

The minutes were respectfully submitted by Ronda Boisvert, Administrative Assistant II

Ronda Boisvert

From: Laura McDormand
Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2023 2:56 PM
To: Ronda Boisvert
Subject: FW: Sidewalk request

Please add to PSC agenda

Laura McDormand
Admin Services & Utility Billing Supervisor
603-335-7569

***Please note that my email address has changed to laura.mcdormand@rochesternh.gov (it used to end with.net)
Please update your address book. Mail to rochesternh.net will continue to work for a while but will eventually be disabled.

From: BillieJo Tivnan <bjtiv72@yahoo.com>
Sent: Thursday, July 6, 2023 2:30 PM
To: Laura McDormand <laura.mcdormand@rochesternh.gov>
Subject: Sidewalk request

Caution: External email.

Even side of Sylvain St from corner of Washington has memorial for shooting victim, next property had a wall that collapsed and hasn't been replaced, trees are all over grown it's become an eye sore. Children are walking in the street.

Thank you
Billie-Jo Tivnan
18 Sylvain St
Rochester NH 03867

Bjtiv72@yahoo.com

Photos taken from corner of Washington St.





Rochester City Hall
City Manager

Sandra Bickford
34 Bernard Road
Rochester New Hampshire
[REDACTED]

I would like to request a Speed Limit Sign for Bernard Road Rochester, NH 03868

We have lived here for 40 yrs and raised 3 children here without traffic.

As off the past couple years traffic has significantly increased with the business of Disc Golf at the end of our dead end road!

People are coming from all different states and some are considerate while most are not.

We have new families with young children and wild life with new fawns.

We added signs our selves in the past couple years that helped for awhile.

This weekend coming being July 29-30th there's a state tournament and traffic will b horrid going in and out all hours of the full weekend!

Would appreciate considering speed limit signs of 25 miles ph or less.

Thank you

Please get back to us on this issue.

Sandra Bickford
Cntrygirls@b@yahoo.com

Hi,

Mr. Marino from 8 Bradley Ct. called Public Works on 7/31/23 with concerns about an accident from 7/28/23, a car went through his fence into his back yard, hit the deck went through his other fence and into the neighbor's yard. He is requesting a guardrail or barrier be put up along the Columbus Ave side of his property. He is concerned that this could happen again. The family and dogs spend a lot of time in this area enjoying the backyard. He is planning on attending the PSC meeting.

Ronda Boisvert

From: Peter Lachapelle
Sent: Wednesday, August 2, 2023 11:21 AM
To: Ronda Boisvert
Subject: Fw: [rochesternh] Pickering Road - Crossing at Railroad Ave (Sent by Courtney Hogan, chogan442@gmail.com)

Hi Ronda,

See email below, can you include this on the public safety agenda as well?

Thanks,
Pete

From: Contact form at rochesternh <cmsmailer@civicplus.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 1, 2023 5:32 PM
To: Peter Lachapelle <peter.lachapelle@rochesternh.gov>
Subject: [rochesternh] Pickering Road - Crossing at Railroad Ave (Sent by Courtney Hogan, chogan442@gmail.com)

Caution: External email.

Hello plachapelle,
Courtney Hogan (chogan442@gmail.com) has sent you a message via your contact form (<https://www.rochesternh.gov/users/plachapelle/contact>) at rochesternh.
If you don't want to receive such e-mails, you can change your settings at <https://www.rochesternh.gov/user/156/edit>.

Message:

Hello Peter,

I've lived in the Gonic area for the last 3 years and frequently walk the Pickering Road - Railroad Ave - Brickyard Drive loop. More frequently than not, I have an issue crossing the street at the crossing of Pickering and Railroad (at least once a week). Today, I was almost hit which is causing me to write in.

Most times, no one stops. I've even had Rochester police cars drive past me waiting in the cross walk. Often, people are flying/speeding around the corner (driving out of Gonic to Dover) that it's risky trying to cross. Today, I had someone pull out of Railroad Ave that did not look both ways and only looked the direction of the way she wasn't traveling and floored it, nearly missing me (apparently she thought the traffic was stopping for her rather than me. As you know, this is also a cross walk for the Gonic School which should cause even more concern. I'd recommend a crossing light, monitoring/policing for increments of time, and additional signage prior to the stop sign on Railroad Ave drawing attention to the cross walk.

Additionally, given that Pickering is a main road, there is no crosswalk connecting from Brickyard to the other side of Pickering. I'd like to recommend that be considered as well.

I appreciate your time reading this. It's taken me awhile to bring this to the attention of someone, but it's become unsafe to even walk my dog in my own neighborhood.

Kind regards,
Courtney Hogan

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Ronda Boisvert

From: Peter Lachapelle
Sent: Wednesday, August 2, 2023 2:15 PM
To: Ronda Boisvert
Subject: Fw: Public Safety concerns

Hi Ronda,

See below, can we add this to the agenda for August as well?

Thanks,
Pete

From: Timothy Fontneau <timothy.fontneau@rochesternh.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, August 2, 2023 2:12 PM
To: Peter Lachapelle <peter.lachapelle@rochesternh.gov>
Subject: Public Safety concerns

Hi Pete,

I had an email from a resident(Denise Caplette) of Wentworth Ave asking that these items be addressed.

1. Speeding cars on Franklin St. near Wentworth. Maybe the speed trailer could be placed over there?
2. Overgrowth at the end of Wentworth St / Portland St intersection blocking visibility when exiting.

Thank you,

Tim Fontneau


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8/8/2023

Edwina Plaisted from 109 England Road called Public Works concerning traffic speeding on England Road. She believes there currently no speed limit signs on the road in either direction. She has spoken to her neighbors, and this is a concern of theirs as well. There are many people in the area walking this road. She suggested possible speed limit signs or slow signs be put up but said the committee would know best.