

Public Safety Committee
Council Chambers
November 21, 2018
7:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilor David Walker
Councilor Geoff Hamann
Councilor Jeremy Hutchinson

MEMBERS ABSENT

Councilor Robert Gates (excused)
Councilor Peter Lachapelle

OTHERS PRESENT

Michael Bezanson, PE, City Engineer
Gary Boudreau, Deputy Police Chief
Tim Wilder, Assistant Fire Chief/Fire Marshal
Dan Camara, GIS/Asset Mgmt. Technician

Minutes

Councilor Walker brought the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

1. Public Input

There was no members of the public present.

2. E911 Update

Deputy Chief Boudreau said that there was no update-the meeting was canceled and moved to December 4, 2018. Deputy Chief Boudreau said he would have update for the next Public Safety meeting.

3. Emergency Management Update

Deputy Chief Wilder said there was no update at this time.

4. Other

36 Washington Street-Parking Issue

Councilor Walker summarized the issue. The resident at 36 Washington Street said since the striping for no parking was painted in front of 34 Washington Street, the van is parking further back and they are having problems pulling out from Cleveland Street onto Washington Street because they cannot see. Councilor Hamann said there is also an elevation change and when you look from Cleveland Street, you cannot see beyond any parked vehicles. ***Councilor Hamann made a motion to stripe for “no parking” to the next intersection in front of 36 Washington Street at the discretion of Public Works. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hutchinson. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.***

Needle Exchange Program

Councilor Hamann discussed the issue with the information that was given on the internet for a needle exchange program. He said as far as he knew there was one legally registered organization that can take the needles with the drug residual in it. You can go on the internet and get information on how to shoot up the right way and with minor wound care. You can get information on where to get NARCAN®, and make a phone call and they will meet you in a public convenient place to exchange the needles. Councilor Hamann feels that they are taking a good thing and turning into a bad thing. He said his daughter and friends could learn on the internet how to shoot up. Councilor Hamann said they are doing everything but supplying the drugs, which are not that far way. Councilor Hutchinson asked Councilor Hamann if he wanted to say who the organization was. He said he didn't want to give too much information yet, but HAND-UP Health Services, Foster's mentions them in articles a few times and also if you "Google" needle exchange program they come up. Councilor Walker said he did not know they did all that. Deputy Chief Boudreau said he did not know this either. The representative from the organization met with the Chief and had a long conversation and he knew about the needle exchange program and the two locations but that was it, he didn't know the extent of it. Councilor Hamann thinks it's gone a little too far, it's like a traveling doctor without a license. He doesn't know where to begin with this, so he's asking questions. This was kept in committee until next month. Deputy Chief Boudreau will do some research and get back to the Committee.

Chesley Hill Road Development – Sidewalk

Mr. Bezanson said that about a year ago the Planning Board approved a subdivision off Chesley Hill Road. As part of the approval, a sidewalk connection was planned that would be installed through City-owned property and along the City's right-of-way for Norman Street, Ramsey Drive, and Chesley Hill Road to the existing sidewalk on Route 125. A serpentine sidewalk was planned through what is now woods, on the City-owned property. Mr. Bezanson read the Notice Of Decision Precedent Condition related to this sidewalk connection to the Committee: "The serpentine sidewalk has been approved by the Planning Board as presented. However, because it is proposed within a City of Rochester ROW, if the City Council determines that this is not an acceptable design, the applicant, Department of Public Works, and the City Council are to agree upon an alternative design and update the plans. If an alternative design is not agreed upon, the applicant is to use DPW surety schedule to determine the cost of the serpentine sidewalk and voluntarily submit that dollar amount to the City (via the Planning Department) as they offered to do so at the October 2, 2017 Planning Board meeting." Mr. Bezanson said that recently this issue has been brought up because the applicant is trying to complete the Precedent Conditions and it came to the attention of City staff that this needs City Council approval. During review of the development project, City staff had safety concerns with the design. Councilor Walker said that there is a back-story on this. He was on the Planning Board at the time. He wanted to have the sidewalk go down Chesley Hill Road rather than through the woods, but he was on the losing side. Councilor Walker clarified with Mr. Bezanson that the plan that was approved by the Planning Board has to be approved by City Council or they need an alternative plan. Councilor Walker stated that he believed having a sidewalk on Chesley Hill Road would be better. Councilor Hamman asked if the lots would be accessed from Chelsey Hill Road or from the sidewalk. Councilor Walker said they would be accessed by future development. Councilor Hamann asked if this would be a temporary sidewalk and Councilor Walker said it would be permanent. Councilor Hutchinson said he thought he remembered this case and he thought Chesley Hill Road was not wide enough and they would end up taking property. Councilor Walker said that DPW suggested putting the sidewalk on the Donald Street side of the street and that the existing right-of-way was likely wide enough to add sidewalk. Councilor Hutchinson asked if it would require widening the road. Mr. Bezanson said there would be construction to add a sidewalk and it would

likely require redesigning the drainage infrastructure. If the sidewalk was on the other side of the road, there are no houses. Deputy Chief Boudreau said the serpentine sidewalk could become a safety issue in the woods, where there are no eyes, light poles but potentially insufficient lighting; it is a secluded area. Councilor Walker said the development is proposed to be built out in phases. Councilor Hutchinson asked if the sidewalk goes down Chesley Hill Road would they need more drainage. Mr. Bezanson said there is a mix of swale and catch basins, which may need to be redesigned for construction of a sidewalk. Councilor Hutchinson said painting a double solid line down the center of the road should be reconsidered. Councilor Walker said one step at a time. Councilor Hamann asked what DPW's opinion was. Mr. Bezanson said a sidewalk would be easier to maintain if it was on the side of the road. Councilor Hamann said it would be a major project. ***Councilor Hamann made a motion to recommend to full City Council that a sidewalk be placed on the south side of Chelsey Hill Road across the street. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hutchinson. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.***

Four Rod Road Update

Deputy Chief Boudreau updated the committee on Four Rod Road speed issue. The speed trailer was placed in the area for 7 days. The average speed was 19.7 mph. Councilor Walker said there was no speed issue in this area.

Councilor Hamann made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:28 PM. Councilor Hutchinson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura Miller, Secretary II.