

Public Safety Committee  
Council Chambers  
June 17, 2015  
7:00 PM

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Councilor David Walker, Chairman  
Councilor Jake Collins  
Councilor Robert Gates  
Councilor Donald Hamann  
Councilor Peter Lachapelle

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Michael Bezanson, PE, City Engineer  
Councilor James Gray  
Scott Dumas, Deputy Chief P.D.  
Robin Brown, Principal of Maple Street School  
Elaine Hopskins-Parent of Maple Street student  
Michael Hopkins, Superintendant

Minutes

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

1. Public Input

The public present were for item #2 of the agenda.

2. Maple Street School Parking Concerns

Councilor Walker summarized the issue. Michael Hopkins, Superintendent of the Rochester School Department, was present to discuss the parking issue near the school. He said the feedback he is getting about student drop off and pickup is that it is going pretty well. Robin Brown, principal of Maple Street Magnet School said that the morning drop off is not a problem because parents are not all dropping off at the same time. After school pickup is the problem. Parents are using the crosshatch-marked area for parking. The whole procedure takes 6 to 7 minutes. Councilor Hamann said the main complaint were from people who go to the school during the day not so much for drop offs. Larger vehicles cannot make it down Maple Street. Elaine Hopskins, a Maple Street Magnet School parent, states they are parking in non-parking spots. Deputy Chief Dumas said they really need no parking in this area. He said the crosshatch lines need to be repainted. Councilor Hamann said he had some complaints from the Chestnut Street area. He also said not to block the 3 parking spots. ***Councilor Gates made a motion to paint crosshatch markings near the crosswalks in the area of Chestnut, Pine, and Waldron and to put "no parking" signs on fence at Maple Street. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hamann. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion. Councilor Walker said the school can manage this. Councilor Walker asked Mr. Bezanson to get a price to remove the bumpout on Maple Street.***

3. 306 North Main Street-Traffic Cut-Through Concerns

This was kept in committee until the owner of Domino's can be present.

4. Portland Street-Street Lights

Councilor Walker summarized the issue. Mr. Bezanson said that both the Ashwood and Pinecrest intersections had existing street lights 80 feet from the intersection. ***Councilor Hamann made a motion to move the current street lights closer to the intersection. Councilor Lachapelle seconded the motion. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.***

5. Right of Way Beautification

Councilor Walker summarized the issue. Mr. Bezanson said that when residents plant anything in the City's right of way they risk damage due to winter road maintenance operations. Councilor Walker said that this was not a safety issue. Mr. Bezanson said that they are looking at General Ordinance Chapter 35 for potential wording changes.

6. Other

*Franklin and Chamberlain Streets*

Councilor Collins just wanted to say that Chamberlain is a nice smooth ride now, but that Franklin needs work.

*Rochester Neck Road*

Councilor Lachapelle said there are some existing signs that need to be replaced along Rochester Neck Road and there are some tree limbs blocking some of the signs. The Public Works department will take care of this.

*38 Chestnut Street*

Councilor Hamann said that the tenant at 38 Chestnut Street maintains the grass in the area and now the new tenant is parking on it. Councilor Walker said the crosshatch markings will take care of this issue.

*Intersection of Estes and Washington Street*

Councilor Gates wanted to know if Mr. Bezanson had an update for the intersection of Estes and Washington Streets. He said that someone ran into stonewall a couple of weeks ago. Mr. Bezanson said that the State of NH is in the final design of this area and will be out to bid maybe in early fall. The historic preservation documentation has been completed on the house proposed for demolition.

### *Old Cleary Cleaners Property*

Deputy Chief Dumas said that vehicles are using the Old Cleary Cleaners (now McManus) property at the corner of Brock Street and Columbus Avenue as a cut-through between Columbus Ave. (Route 125) and Old Gonic Road. Mr. Bezanson will contact the owner of this property to see if he will discontinue use of the driveway on Old Gonic Road. He will also check with the Assistant City Engineer, Jen Hale, to see if this can be put in the Notice of Decision.

### *Academy Street*

Mr. Bezanson updated the committee on the "no parking" signs. He stated they were all up.

### *Magic Avenue-Crosswalk*

Mr. Bezanson said that the crosswalk is complete on Magic Avenue.

### *Penny Lane*

Mr. Bezanson stated that the "dead end" sign had been installed at Penny Lane.

### *Anderson Lane/Collins Circle/Givens Circle*

Mr. Bezanson stated that the "no outlet" sign had been installed at Anderson Lane.

### *Stillwater Circle*

Mr. Bezanson said that two handicap signs were placed on Stillwater Circle, but one had been taken already. The missing sign will be replaced as soon as possible.

### *Flat Rock Bridge Road*

Mr. Bezanson said there is a stop sign in a concrete foundation by the used car dealership at the intersection with Salmon Falls Road. He stated that they are going to move the sign and repaint the stop bar to correct some sight distance issues.

### *Fairground Events/Chestnut Street Parking Issues*

Deputy Chief said there have been some parking complaints in the Chestnut area during fairground events. He said most of the parking should be inside the fairgrounds. There could be permanent "no parking" signs in the area for events. This is kept in committee so they can check out the area.

*Sign Budget*

Mr. Bezanson stated 100 percent of the sign budget has been used. \$6,800.00.

***Councilor Lachapelle made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilor Hamann.  
The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.***

Respectfully Submitted by  
Laura Miller, DPW Secretary