

Public Safety Committee  
Council Chambers  
February 19, 2014  
7:00 PM

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Councilor Peter Lachapelle

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Gretchen Young, PE Construction Engineer  
Councilor James Gray  
Councilor Mac Kittredge  
Councilor John Larochelle  
Captain Gary Boudreau, P.D.  
Chief Norman Sanborn, F.D.  
Assistant Chief, Mark Dupuis, F.D.

Minutes

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

1. Public Input

There were no members of the public present.

2. Patton Street-obstructed view

Councilor Walker summarized the issue. Ms. Young stated that Sheldon Perkins from Code Enforcement went to 30 Patton Street to review the fence in question. He told Ms. Young that the fence was 6 feet tall and completely on the owners property so there is no code violation. He talked with the owners of fence and they are not interested in taking the fence down. Councilor Walker said that they could send this to the planning board to change the set backs in the site review. He also stated that if they took one panel off the fence it would be fine. Councilor Larochelle asked if there was any state law regarding structures that blocking views. Councilor Walker stated that in the past they have just talked with residents to cut the bushes back and most of them have been cooperative. Councilor Larochelle asked if there were fog lines on the street. Ms. Young said no. Councilor Gates asked if the fence was a threat. Councilor Walker said that the neighbor cannot see any oncoming vehicular or pedestrian traffic as he backs out of his driveway. Ms. Young said the driveway is directly next to the property line and therefore next to the fence. Councilor Gates asked if a mirror would work. Councilor Walker said it wouldn't do any good. This was kept in committee until the Planning Board and Codes and Ordinances committees have reviewed the requirements.

### 3. Fire Department ISO report

Councilor Walker stated that Chief Sanborn and Assistant Chief Dupuis were present to go over any questions that the committee might have regarding the ISO that was done for the Rochester Fire Department. Chief Sanborn said that the ISO collects and evaluates information from communities in the United States on their structure fire suppression capabilities. The company rates on the following criteria:

1. Needed Fire Flows, which are representative building locations used to determine the theoretical amount of water necessary for fire suppression purposes.
2. Emergency Communications, including emergency reporting, telecommunicators, and dispatching systems.
3. Fire Department, including equipment, staffing, training, geographic distribution of fire companies, operational considerations, and community risk reduction.
4. Water Supply, including inspection and flow testing of hydrants, alternative water supply operations and a careful evaluation of the amount of available water compared with the amount needed to suppress fires up to 3,500 gpm.

Assistant Chief Dupuis said this is based on structural fire capabilities only. Councilor Walker asked what the worse categories were. Chief Sanborn said that the department scored low on training which is partially due to no training grounds. Councilor Larochelle said there were 0 earned credit on #4 Geographic Information System (GIS/AVL). Chief Sanborn said that's because there is no GPS in vehicles. Councilor Larochelle asked how important the GPS in the vehicle is. Assistant Chief Dupuis said it is effective if power is out and all engines are out on calls, they can track where the closest engine is to an emergency. Councilor Hamann asked how much it would cost to have GPS installed in each vehicle. Assistant Chief Dupuis said about \$1,000.00 per vehicle. Councilor Larochelle asked if the fire fighters were adequately trained. Assistant Chief Dupuis said yes. Councilor Collins asked if the officers are trained in NFPA 1021, and are they certified. Assistant Chief Dupuis said yes. Councilor Collins also asked if they could get certified with reading or on-line classes. Assistant Chief Dupuis said he would have to look into it. Councilor Kittredge asked if this information was forwarded to insurance companies. Chief Sanborn said yes, but that he wasn't sure that the property owners were made aware. Councilor Kittredge said maybe there should be a press release done. Councilor Gates asked how companies know about the rating. Chief Sanborn said he really did not know. Councilor Gray said they should have Dennis Schafer make a map for the 5 miles circle and hydrants that are 1,000 ft. or more. Assistant Chief Dupuis said he didn't know if it was circular area or not. Councilor Walker said they could put something on the web about the Fire Departments rating improving. Councilor Walker asked Chief Sanborn to contact ISO for a map and to get a cost estimate for how much GPS would cost for each truck. Chief Sanborn said he will do research on cost for the GPS systems. Councilor Walker asked Chief Sanborn to e-mail the committee the information when he had it.

#### 4. Other

Volunteer to help with exiting Ordinance 15.9 Address numbers on streets, highways and right-of ways.

Councilor Kittredge is willing to volunteer his time to help put address numbers on existing residential or commercial structures. He said he could probably get some funding for the numbers. He was looking for suggestions from the committee. Councilor Walker asked how he would handle apartment buildings and duplexes. Councilor Gates said he could ask other municipalities in the state to see how they did it. Councilor Collins asked if it didn't work with Councilor Kittredge going to each location could stickers be made available to residence at low cost. Captain Boudreau from the Rochester Police Department said sometimes the places are hard to find and every second counts being the first responder. Councilor Walker said some of the downtown is congested; there are houses in back of houses.

Washington Street-Right turn only sign

Councilor Hamann said the right turn only sign on Washington Street by the Groin building headed towards town is missing. Councilor Walker said that this request does not need a motion. Ms. Young will have inquire with the developer of that property.

Plows on One-Way Streets

Councilor Hamann said he received some calls regarding the plows going the wrong way on one-way streets.

Councilor Gray asked Councilor Walker how his turn to his house on Brock Street is. Councilor Walker said much better, he had no complaints and he hasn't been cut off.

Pile of snow on Portland Street

Councilor Collins said there is a big pile of snow on Portland Street, he asked if that could be removed. Ms. Young will let DPW know about the pile of snow.

Councilor Collins thanked the Public Works Department for the wonderful job they do.

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

Respectfully submitted by  
Laura Miller  
Secretary II, DPW

