

Public Safety Committee
Council Chambers
October 15, 2014
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.
Sheila Carlson

Minutes

1. Public Input

The only member of the public present was there for item #2 in the agenda.

2. New Soccer Field-Parking Concerns (update)

Councilor Walker summarized the issue. Mr. Bezanson said that he had received an e-mail from the Superintendent of Schools regarding the parking issues near Pink Street. The email stated that another gate was going to be added further away from Hillsdale to ensure that students don't get picked up at Hillsdale. It also stated that the School Department does not plan to put in a parking lot. Councilor Gates stated that he went to a lot of meetings regarding this, and that there were talks about putting in a parking lot. Councilor Walker said the parking lot was probably cut out of the plans and that he was reluctant to propose putting "no parking" signs up. Councilor Gray said that the Public Safety Committee and the School Board Building Committee should discuss this matter. Sheila Carlson, who was there to hear about the parking issue, said the next School Board Building Committee meeting was going to be held on November 6, 2014. Councilor Walker stated that he would attend the meeting. Councilor Gates said that Councilor Walker should talk to the chair of their meeting before November 6, 2014 and attempt to get on the agenda. Councilor Walker stated he would do so. This was kept in committee until next month and Councilor Walker will attend the School Board Building Committee meeting on November 6, 2014.

3. State Street-Traffic Issue (update)

Councilor Walker summarized the issue. Mr. Bezanson said he checked the area out and that the right-of-way for Old Gonic Road has a variable width; at the intersection of Cedarbrook Avenue (private road) it is 47 feet wide. There appears to be an area within the city's right-of-way to install a sign for Cedarbrook Avenue.

Deputy Chief Dumas said that since there was room to install a sign, a “stop” sign should be installed; it will be enforceable if it is placed in the City’s right-of-way.

Councilor Lachapelle made a motion to install a “stop” sign at the discretion of the Public Works Department to be placed on city property stopping traffic from Cedarbrook Village. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hamann. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

4. Maple Street-No Parking (update)

Councilor Walker summarized the issue. He stated that he checked out the area and that Maple Street between Fairway and Haig has no room to park between the curbs without blocking a travel lane.

Councilor Hamann made a motion to place “no parking” signs on both sides of Maple Street between Fairway Avenue and Haig Street. The motion was seconded by Councilor Lachapelle. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

5. Other

Park on Route 11

Councilor Collins said that there was a resident near the park on Route 11 that was upset with the hunting that is going on at the park. The bow hunting is not the problem the shooting is. Deputy Chief Dumas said he was not aware of it. Councilor Walker said you have to be 300 feet away from a house. Deputy Chief Dumas will put a call into Fish and Game.

Portland Street- 30 mph stop sign.

Councilor Collins said that Arthur Birch had spoke to him about placing the 30 mph on the same post as the “no thru trucks” sign. Councilor Collins said it seems like the signage is accurate but wanted to get the opinion of the committee. Councilor Walker asked Councilor Collins to clarify the issue with Mr. Birch.

Davyanne Locke Lane

Councilor Gray said that the residents near the William Allen School wanted to get the trash collection schedule changed due to traffic concerns at the beginning and end of the school day. Councilor Lachapelle said that they may not be able to change the route. Councilor Walker asked Mr. Bezanson to have the Public Works Department inquire with Waste Management regarding rescheduling trash collection in the Davyanne Locke Lane, Woodman Street and Granite Street area.

Highfield Commons

Deputy Chief Dumas gave an update on the Highfield Commons area. They conducted enforcement and used the speed trailer in the area. The approximate speed was 40 mph and 2000 vehicles. He stated that they were not making an impact yet and that they were still going to do enforcement in the area.

Salmon Falls Bus Stop

Deputy Chief Dumas stated that there had been another issue with a vehicle passing a school bus on Salmon Falls Road. He said that unfortunately they can't be there at all times to enforce and that the signs are up.

Dry Hill Road update

Councilor Gates said that he has not heard anything else from the neighbors regarding any further problems.

Estes Road update

Mr. Bezanson said that he did hear back from the state and they are still looking to remove the house and grade the area. The grading and sight line improvements will be off the roadway. The building is still going through the NH Division of Historical Resources. A future project may address roadway grading and alignment, however there is no timeframe for completion of this project.

Councilor Gates made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Councilor Lachapelle. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Laura Miller
Secretary II, DPW