

**Public Safety Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 16, 2023
6:00 PM
Council Chambers**

Members Present

Councilor Peter Lachapelle, Chair
Councilor Skip Gilman
Councilor Dana Berlin

Members Absent

Councilor Alexander de Geofroy (excused)
Councilor Amy Malone

Others Present

Jarrold Norris, P.E. Assistant City Engineer
Gina Golden-Silvestro, GIS/AM Technician
Captain Andrew Swanberry, PD
Chief Dennis Dube, FD
Sandra Bickford, 34 Bernard Road
Craig Marino, 8 Bradley Court

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

1. Approve Minutes from July 19, 2023 Public Safety Meeting

Councilor Gilman MOVED to approve the minutes from July 19, 2023. Councilor Berlin seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED by unanimous voice vote.

2. Public Input

Sandra Bickford of 34 Bernard Road was present to discuss having a speed limit sign installed on Bernard Road. The road has about five homes on it, but it is a very busy road with the disk golf course. This is a popular course; they have tournaments every other weekend. She is concerned about the vehicles speeding with children and wildlife in the area.

Craig Marino of 8 Bradley Court was present to request the placement of a guard rail or barrier along his fence line to protect his back yard. There was a vehicle leaving Bradley Court that was hit and went through his fence into his backyard. He has two children and two dogs, and they all spend most of their time in the backyard.

Councilor Lachapelle stated that guard rails are used to deflect vehicles from them but not for head on. Mr. Marino stated he would pay so he can get to have the peace of mind. Councilor Berlin asks a follow up question to Mr. Marino to clarify request. Mr. Marino is seeking the city's approval for the guardrail or barrier. Councilor Berlin stated the committee cannot provide what he is requesting and in the placement of. Councilor Lachapelle stated he will make a few calls and will follow up with Mr. Marino.

3. Salmon Falls Road Speed Limit Issue and Electronic Sign Placement

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue. Councilor Berlin stated he does not

believe the sign needs to be moved; it is closer to the road than the electricity pole.
Councilor Berlin MOVED to remove item from the agenda Councilor Gilman seconded the motion. MOTION CARRIED by unanimous voice vote.

4. Flashing Lights and Raised Table Policy Discussion

Councilor Lachapelle summarized this is part of the speed table concern being discussed. Councilor Berlin asked does anything need to be added or removed from the guidelines list. Currently there is no policy as to where raised tables can and cannot go. Councilor LaChapelle stated the concern of having the policy and if a spot meets the requirements, one might think it can go in. Councilor Berlin stated in the policy if an area meets the criteria, it is still up to the council to determine per request. Chief Dube stated he believes a policy with guidelines would be beneficial. He would look at their codes and concerns on each event. Chief Dube will review the policy and bring feedback to next month's meeting. **(kept in committee)**

5. Chestnut Street Speed Control

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

6. Highland Street / Eastern Avenue

Mr. Norris reached out to the NHDOT and has not received an update. Mr. Norris will follow up and provide an update at the next meeting. **(kept in committee)**

7. Rangeway Drive

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

8. Spring Street

Councilor Lachapelle stated he spoke with the City Manager she is involved with this issue. Councilor Berlin stated he believes the organization is working on improvements and should not be with the council. Councilor Lachapelle asked this to be remove from the agenda as it is being worked on by the City Manager and Councilor Gilman agreed.

9. Speeding Concern Procedural Guidelines

Councilor LaChapelle stated that Councilor de Geofroy worked on writing some guidelines and was unsuccessful, requested its removal from the agenda.

10. Sylvain Street

Mr. Norris stated there were several issues brought to the committee's attention. Councilor Lachapelle stated that sidewalk requests would go to the Public Works & Building Committee. Mr. Norris said he was unsure of where a sidewalk was being requested and follow up is needed. The overgrown vegetation a service requested will be made.

11. Benard Road

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue and asked Captain Swanberry what the speed limit is when not posted. Captain Swanberry stated it would be a 30 mph or 35 mph he would need to go to the area to confirm. Councilor Berlin asked if there are any speed limit signs in stock. Mr. Norris will find out if DPW has a 30 mph sign in stock. **(kept in committee)**

12. Bradley Court

Was discussed during public input. Councilor LaChapelle will follow up with Mr. Marino.

13. Pickering Road/ Railroad Ave

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue requesting a push button flasher. Mr. Norris stated this location has been reviewed in the past. There is not much space there between the guard rail and the curb to put a push button flasher in that location. Mr. Norris believes that there maybe funding in the future to improve the sidewalk. Councilor LaChapelle asked if we will have crossing guards. Captain Swanberry stated there is an issue obtaining crossing guards. **(kept in committee)**

14. Pickering Road/ Brickyard

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue the resident is requesting a crosswalk at Brickyard. It appears there is a sidewalk on one side of the road. Mr. Norris will have to look into if a crosswalk should be where there are not sidewalks on both sides. **(kept in committee)**

15. Franklin St/ Wentworth St

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue requesting the speed trailer to be placed to gather some data on the location. Captain Swanberry stated they could place the trailer in that location and will report back to the committee. **(kept in committee)**

16. Wentworth St/ Portland St

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue requesting overgrowth to be cut back. He stated that a work order was entered, and the work has been completed.

17. England Road

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue with traffic speeding. Councilor Lachapelle stated if the speed limit is not posted it is 30 mph or 35 mph. No action taken.

18. Traffic Calming

Mr. Norris stated that on July 27, 2023, Director of City Services Peter Nourse provided an update to the Highway and Streets ordinance regarding traffic calming. The presentation is available online for viewing.

19. *Thank You*

Councilor Lachapelle thanked Deputy Chief Jason Thomas for his years of Service to the City as well as his service to the Public Safety Committee.

Councilor Lachapelle ADJOURNED the meeting at 6:31 PM.

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