

**Public Safety Committee
Draft Meeting Minutes
December 15, 2021
6:00 PM
Council Chambers**

Members Present

Councilor Peter Lachapelle, Vice Chair
Councilor Palana Hunt-Hawkins
Councilor Chris Rice

Members Absent

Councilor Don Hamann, Chair (Excused)
Councilor Jeremy Hutchinson (Unexcused)

Others Present

Councilor David Walker
Michael Bezanson, PE, City Engineer
Deputy Chief Gary Boudreau, PD
Captain Jason Thomas, PD
Interim Fire Chief Perry Plummer, FD
Assistant Chief Tim Wilder, FD
Dan Camara, GIS Asset Mgmt. Technician
Robert Skinner, 2A Central Avenue
Larry Edgerly, 48 Lowell Street

Minutes

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

1. **Approve Minutes from November 17, 2021, Public Safety Meeting.**
Councilor Rice made a motion to approve the minutes from November 17, 2021. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hunt-Hawkins. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.
2. **Public Input**
The members of the public present at the meeting were there to discuss specific items already on the agenda.
3. **2A Central Avenue-Parking Concerns Requesting “2 Hour” Parking Signs**
Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue. Robert Skinner of 2A Central Avenue expressed concerns about the use of the parking spaces across the street from his apartment on Central Avenue. The tenants across the street have their own off-street parking spaces, but choose to use the spaces on Central Avenue. Mr. Skinner stated that sometimes he can’t get into his parking space. He said that if there were “four hour” parking signs installed, the Police Department could enforce that. Sometimes big delivery trucks and trash trucks have difficulty getting down the road; Porter’s Pub on Hanson Street gets deliveries every few days. He stated that spots are taken over at night. Councilor Walker said that parking enforcement typically stops after 5 PM. Mr. Skinner said they do not park up close to the curb in the spots, especially after snowstorms in the winter. Councilor Walker said that

the parking spaces belong to the public not to the apartment buildings. He also said that not parking within the striped parking spaces can be enforced. Councilor Rice asked if someone could speak to the landlord, Mr. Lee, or have someone send a letter asking the tenants to park in their parking spots, not in the public parking spots. Councilor Lachapelle will draft a letter for City staff review that could be sent to the landlord. Councilor Rice will get in touch with Mr. Skinner to get the landlords contact information so they can get something sent to the landlord.

4. Lowell Street-Signage Area of Arena (kept in committee)

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue. Larry Edgerly was present to talk about signage on Lowell Street in the area of the Arena. Mr. Edgerly said because Lowell Street is so straight motorists tend to speed right by the Arena. The line-of-sight is limited for vehicles entering and leaving the Arena due to the vertical curvature of the road; speeding vehicles exacerbate the issue. Mr. Edgerly asked whether the speed limit sign at the beginning of Lowell Street could be moved down a little; people don't see it. ***Councilor Rice made a motion to relocate the current 30 MPH speed limit sign on the Columbus Avenue end of Lowell Street to a location closer to Great Falls Avenue. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hunt-Hawkins. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.***

Mr. Edgerly also asked whether another 30 MPH speed limit sign could be installed in the westbound direction near the conservation area. ***Councilor Rice made a motion to install a 30 MPH speed limit sign in the westbound direction on Lowell Street just beyond Goodwins Way at the discretion of DPW. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hunt-Hawkins. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.***

Mr. Edgerly provided copies of a sketch that he had drawn of a suggested yellow caution sign showing the street and side streets. Councilor Rice asked if there was a similar sign that can be adopted. Mr. Bezanson said he had looked up advance warning signs that would be applicable for this area. He said the MUTCD has an advance warning sign for "Double Side Roads", which is diamond shaped sign showing the road and two side roads and is very similar to what Mr. Edgerly has suggested. Mr. Bezanson said he is not sure that driveways could be added to the sign. Councilor Walker asked if there are any signs for frequent entering of vehicles. Mr. Bezanson said there is something like that for trucks but not really for an arena; he suggested that the advanced warning signs would be good for this area. ***Councilor Rice made a motion to install two advance warning signs for "Double Side Roads" to be placed on Lowell Street in advance of Harding Street and Edgerly Way at the discretion of DPW. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hunt-Hawkins. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.***

5. Flat Rock Bridge Road/Salmon Falls Road Intersection Safety Concerns (kept in committee)

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue. Mr. Bezanson said he did not have an update on this agenda item.

6. Squamanagonic Gate Discussion (kept in committee)

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue. No one was present to discuss this agenda item; this was kept in committee.

7. Charles Street-Request for “No parking between hours of 2:30 PM and 3:30 PM on Northbound side of Charles Street between Academy and Hope on Haven Hill Driveway (kept in committee)”

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue. The Superintendent of Schools was present last month to discuss this item; no action was taken. Mr. Bezanson updated the Committee that the infrastructure project for this area has been advertised for bids and construction should begin in the spring.

8. Tebbetts Road and Blackwater Road Intersection-Safety Concerns

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue. He stated that the streetlight request was approved. Mr. Bezanson said guardrails are designed to redirect not to take head on collisions. Councilor Walker suggested chevron signs in the area. Mr. Bezanson stated that chevron signs are installed in the area. Mr. Bezanson said that he will talk to DPW staff about trimming back more of the woody growth, but that right now there are no leaves so it is easy to see through. Mr. Lachapelle will reach out to the owners to explain what has been done and the decision not to place a guardrail on this area.

9. Tebbetts Road-Renumbering

No action taken on this agenda item.

10. Street-light Request Corner of Hoover Street and Washington Street

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue. Councilor Walker said this request came in from a constituent from 11 Washington Street. It's very dark around 98 Washington Street at the corner of Hoover Street, and people hang out in the area. Mr. Bezanson said there is a streetlight across the street; he suggested talking to Eversource to see if this could be moved to the utility pole on the corner of Washington and Hoover. ***Councilor Rice made a motion to move the current streetlight that is across the street to the utility pole on the corner of Hoover and Washington Streets. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hunt-Hawkins. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.***

11. 197 Columbus Avenue-Requesting Handicap Spot

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue. This is in front of the hair salon at the location of the old Lamper & Son Hardware store. ***Councilor Rice made a motion to approve installing a handicap spot near 197 Columbus Avenue. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hunt-Hawkins.*** Mr. Bezanson said there are already two handicap spaces nearby on Hanson Street and have recently added a handicap space in the municipal parking lot across the street. Councilor Walker asked if the driveway on the side was part of the lot. Chief Boudreau said he believes it is. ***Councilor Rice withdrew his motion. Councilor Hunt-Hawkins also withdrew her second.*** This was kept in committee to talk to the

Planning Department about on-site parking at this building.

12. E911 Update

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue. Assistant Chief Wilder said that the E911 Committee will be meeting with the City Manager to discuss how to move forward with these types of issues in the future.

13. Emergency Management Update

Councilor Lachapelle summarized the issue. Interim Fire Chief Plummer said they have been busy at the state and local level with boosters. They coordinated boosters for school children and teachers at the schools, as well as boosters for City employees. The booster blitz happened on Saturday at the Armory with just under 1000 people and this is one of the 4 sites in the State that will continue to offer boosters. The Fire Department have been helping with staffing the operation at the Armory. The Seabrook emergency management non-graded exercise happened and Interim Fire Chief Plummer thanked Deputy Chief Boudreau for participating in the exercise. Emergency Management Performance Grant Program is currently on hold as they revamp the program, so currently no funds available from that program.

14. Other

Portable Speed Limit Signs Update

Council Rice asked about the portable speed feedback signs. Deputy Chief Boudreau got the specifications on the Evolis Radar Speed Limit sign. For two of them the cost will be \$5,950.00. Councilor Lachapelle asked Deputy Chief Boudreau if he sees a benefit in these signs. Chief Boudreau said yes there is a benefit. ***Councilor Rice made a motion to send to the Finance Committee a request to purchase two Evolis Radar Speed Limit signs. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hunt-Hawkins. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.***

Spaulding Commons Booster Clinic

Councilor Rice wanted to thank the Chief and staff at the Booster Clinic at Spaulding Commons; he was in and out within 20 minutes. He encourages everyone to get theirs.

Councilor Lachapelle adjourned the meeting at 7:00 PM.

The minutes were respectfully submitted by Laura J. McDormand, Admin. Assistant II.

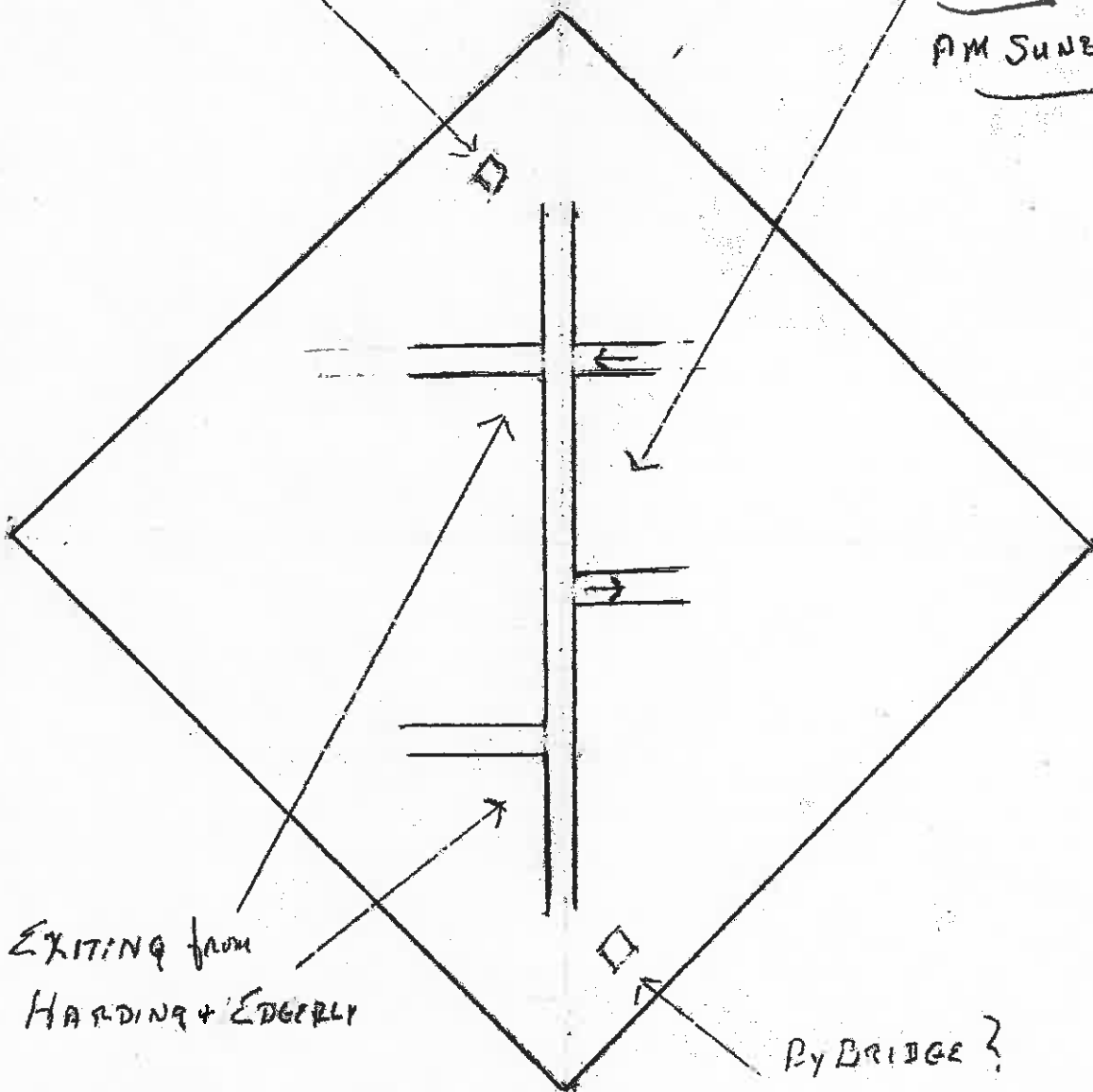
EAST

By CONSERVATION
By BRIDGE ?

EXITING from
REC AREA

SCHOOL BUS
STOPS

PM SUNBLINDNESS E B



EXITING from
HARDING + EDGERLY

By BRIDGE ?

WEST

SUGGESTIONS BY
LAWRENCE EDGERLY
48 Lowell ST
332-4496