

Public Safety Committee  
Council Chambers  
February 17, 2016  
7:00 PM

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Councilor Donald Hamann  
Councilor Robert Gates  
Councilor James Gray

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Councilor Peter Lachapelle (excused)  
Councilor Ray Barnett (excused)

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Michael Bezanson, PE, City Engineer  
Captain Paul Toussaint, P.D.  
David Walker, 34 Brock Street

Minutes

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

1. Approve Minutes from January 20, 2016

The first order of business was to approve the January 20, 2016 minutes. *Councilor Gates made a motion to approve the January 20, 2016 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gray. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.*

2. Public Input

No public was present to discuss any issues or concerns.

3. King Street and Farrington Street Stop Sign Request (resident request)

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Councilor Gray stated that DPW should check to see if there was a stop sign there before. If there was, DPW can replace the sign without having to get Council Approval. Whether there was a stop sign there or not, a stop line can be painted at the end of Farrington Street. *Councilor Gray made a motion to have DPW check to see if there was a stop sign at the end of Farrington Street in the past, and if so to replace the sign; also, to have DPW paint a stop line at the end of Farrington Street. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gray. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.*

4. Gear Road-Traffic Speed

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Captain Toussaint said that the speed trailer had not been placed on Gear Road yet because the snow banks are in the way, but they have done extra patrols in the area and that they see no problem at this time. This was kept in committee until the speed trailer can be placed on Gear Road.

5. Gonic Crosswalk

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Captain Toussaint said that the speed trailer has not been placed in Gonic because the snow banks are in the way. This was kept in committee until the speed trailer could be placed in the area.

6. Betts/Cross Road Intersection Concerns (kept in committee)

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Mr. Bezanson stated that a tree near the intersection of Betts/Cross Roads was part of the line-of-sight issue. There is also a stone wall on top of an earthen mound. Mr. Bezanson recommended that removing the tree should be the first step toward addressing the line-of-sight issues. Councilor Gray said they need to check to see if the tree is on private property. Mr. Bezanson stated that DPW would talk to the homeowner and work on getting the tree removed. This was kept in committee pending the results of those efforts.

7. Knight Street/Columbus Avenue (kept in committee)

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Mr. Bezanson stated that DPW had worked with their engineers to develop three options for improving the Knight St./Columbus Ave. intersection. Each of the options involved restricting movements out of the Cumberland Farms driveway; two of the options added a curbed island; and one of the options involved a property acquisition from the parcel that currently contains the Jimmy Jones Locker seafood restaurant. One of the restrictions at the intersection is a heavily used utility pole, which DPW could look into having moved, if warranted. Mr. Bezanson suggested that there did not seem to be a perfect solution. The Committee discussed the Police Department's previous report that there have not been big problems in this area, three minor accidents. Councilor Gates said the City Council is not going to spend money if there are no big problems in the area. No action was taken.

8. Other

Washington Street Directed Patrols

Councilor Gates asked if the Police Department was still conducting directed patrols on Washington Street. Captain Toussaint said no that they faded out.

Woodman Area Update

Mr. Bezanson updated the committee on the Woodman area issue. Mr. Storer is going to bring this up to this month's Public Works Committee. DPW is planning to notify residents of the pending posting of "no parking" on Woodman Street and Davyanne Locke Lane. The "no parking" areas will allow two-way traffic on Woodman Street and allow large vehicles, including emergency vehicles and buses to access Woodman and Davyanne Locke. Following notification, "no parking" signs would be installed on the north side of Woodman Street and on the corner of Davyanne Locke Lane. Councilor Hamann said the school needs at least a 1 week notice prior to swapping the bus and parent drop-off/pick-up routes. Mr. Walker said that school vacation is next week. Councilor Hamann stated that the school did several trial runs with the buses to make sure that they could make the turn onto Davyanne Locke Lane. The Superintendent of Schools, Mike Hopkins, personally rode the bus during the trials.

***Councilor Gates made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 PM. Councilor Hamann seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura Miller, Secretary II.