

Public Safety Committee
Council Chambers
September 21, 2016
7:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilor Donald Hamann, Chair
Councilor Ray Barnett
Councilor Robert Gates
Councilor James Gray
Councilor Peter Lachapelle

OTHERS PRESENT

Michael Bezanson, PE, City Engineer
Deputy Chief Toussaint, Police Dept.
Henry Lizotte, 12 Tebbetts Road

Minutes

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

1. Approve minutes from August 17, 2016

The first order of business was to approve the August 17, 2016 minutes. ***Councilor Lachapelle made a motion to approve the August 17, 2016 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gates. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.***

2. Public Input

Henry Lizotte of 12 Tebbetts Road was present to voice his concerns with the Blackwater/Tebbetts Road intersection. He stated there was an accident in this area on August 24, 2016. Two of the boulders that he recently placed along the edge of his property were struck and moved by a motor vehicle that came straight through the intersection from Blackwater Road. He said the corner has been a problem with several similar accidents occurring over the years. He tried to get a copy of the police report for this most recent accident, but had not yet received a call back as of the time of the Public Safety Meeting. Deputy Chief Toussaint took Mr. Lizotte's phone number and stated that he would have the records department give him a call. He said the Department of Public Works has had to reset the warning sign each time a vehicle hit it, including this most recent accident. Mr. Lizotte suggested maybe clearing the line of sight on the corner of Blackwater Road. He said he would appreciate anything that may help. He has lived in his house at 12 Tebbetts Road since 1979 and there have been probably 15-20 vehicles that have gone off the road in a similar manner. Mr. Bezanson will look into clearing on

the Blackwater Road corner and any other safety measures that could be implemented in the area.

3. Chamberlain Street/Franklin Street-Crossing dangers (kept in committee)

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Deputy Chief Toussaint said they have performed numerous patrols in the area. They have also talked to the Milton Police Chief who lives in the area and he confirmed that occasionally there are issues with vehicles running the stop sign at the Chamberlain/Franklin Streets intersection. Deputy Chief Toussaint said that the police department will continue to follow up on this issue; no action was taken through the Public Safety Committee.

4. Lupine/Heritage-No Parking Sign Request (kept in committee)

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Deputy Chief Toussaint said the police department has observed the area on multiple occasions and have not observed a significant problem. Vehicles do park on the side of the road, single file, for approximately 15 minutes in the morning. Traffic is able to maneuver around the parked cars. No action was taken.

5. Chestnut Hill-Stony Brook Coop Mobile Home Park-(kept in committee pending accident info)

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Deputy Chief Toussaint said that the police department found only one accident at this location in the last five years; however, the accident was not related to line of sight. Councilor Gray asked if DPW had looked to see where the obstruction was. Mr. Bezanson said it was on Eversource-owned property and that they had agreed to address the issue the next time there was a sizable project in the area. Mr. Bezanson will ensure that the commitment is noted appropriately, so that Eversource follows through in the future. No action was taken.

6. Whitehouse Road-Speed Concerns (kept in committee-pending speed patrol information)

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Deputy Chief Toussaint said Whitehouse Road was an area of concern. The police department has been doing extra patrols in the area but has not put the speed trailer out. After the area is paved and all construction is complete then they will place the speed trailer in the area. Councilor Hamann said the paving will be delayed a little because of a high pressure gas main that needs to be relocated deeper below the road surface. Mr. Bezanson said that Unitil has committed to

replacing and relocating the gas main during 2017 and 2018 year. The road could then be reclaimed and repaved in 2019; in the meantime the roadway pavement will likely need to be shimmed. No action was taken.

7. Highland/Grove Street Overnight Parking Concern

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Councilor Varney sent Deputy Chief Toussaint an e-mail about a truck parking overnight. Deputy Chief Toussaint said they patrolled the area Tuesday through Friday and did not see any issue. He will send Councilor Varney an e-mail to let him know the results. No action taken.

8. Other

Speed Trailer - Parson Main

Eddie Walker has requested the speed trailer near the Parson Main Statue. He said he is afraid to cross in this area. Deputy Chief Toussaint said the speed limit is 30 mph in the area. He said there really isn't a good spot to place the speed trailer in that particular area. He also said that the police department is looking into a grant for speeding issues.

Spaulding Turnpike Exit 16

Councilor Varney contacted DPW recently regarding the on-going Spaulding Turnpike Exit 16 safety issues. The guardrail continues to get hit. NHDOT has been contacted previously regarding the exit design and potential safety improvements that could be made. DPW is following up with the NHDOT Bureau of Turnpikes for solutions.

Waldron Avenue - Parking Issue

Councilor Hamann said when school is getting out vehicles are starting to park there around 2:15 PM. After school kids are playing on the playground so vehicles are parked in front of the school.

William Allen School Parking

the Councilor Gates asked Deputy Chief Toussaint if there have been any complaints with parking near William Allen School. Deputy Chief Toussaint said he has not had any complaints and Councilor Hamann said he hasn't heard of any either.

Councilor Lachapelle made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 PM. Councilor Gates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura Miller, Secretary II.