

Public Safety Committee
Council Chambers
November 16, 2016
7:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

John Storer, PE, Director of City Services
Mike Bezanson, PE, City Engineer
Deputy Chief Toussaint, Police Department

Minutes

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

1. Approve Minutes From October 19, 2016

The first order of business was to approve the October 19, 2016 minutes.
Councilor Gates made a motion to approve the October 19, 2016 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gray. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

2. Public Input

There were no members of the public present.

3. Morrill Court-Dead End Sign

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Mr. Bezanson said the area in question was off Portland Street northeast of School Street. The request came from a resident of 5 Morrill Court, for a lack of a "Dead End" sign. It was reported that vehicles fly down the road and try to turn around in his driveway; he has young children. Councilor Gates asked Mr. Bezanson the cost for a "dead end" sign and asked if there were some in stock. Mr. Bezanson said he would have to check if there were any in stock at DPW and on the cost of the sign. He also stated the sign could go above the street sign on the same post. ***Councilor Gates made a motion to install a "Dead End" sign on Morrill Court at the discretion of DPW. Councilor Barnett seconded the motion. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.***

4. No Overnight Parking-Ordinance

Kept in committee until next month to gather more information.

5. Public Tree Removal-71 Stillwater Circle (kept in committee)

Mr. Storer, Director of City Services presented the proposed General Tree Removal Policy and a specific request from #71 Stillwater Circle.

Councilor Lachapelle made a motion to have the tree removed at 71 Stillwater Circle at owner's expense and to bring the Tree Removal Policy to full City Council for adoption. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gates. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion. Mr. Storer will do an agenda bill for this request.

6. Corner of Charles & McIntyre Street-No Parking Sign (kept in committee)

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Deputy Chief Toussaint said there is no issue on McIntyre Street; nothing is impeding the traffic. Councilor Hamann said he saw no issue. Mr. Bezanson stated that the request came in from 94 Charles Street. Upon listening to the recommendation of the Police Department that there were no issues in the area, no action was taken.

7. Crosswalk near Parson Main (kept in committee)

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Mr. Storer said there was \$100,000 appropriated in FY17 funds to improve crosswalk safety downtown. DPW will be looking at the entire downtown area, including the particular crosswalk in question on Wakefield Street. Deputy Chief Toussaint stated that there were curb cuts that would need to be moved if the crosswalk were moved; there is more involved than simply repainting a crosswalk in a different location.

Councilor Lachapelle made a motion to take no action. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gates. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion. DPW will bring recommendations back to the Committee once the entire area has been evaluated.

8. Other

William Allen School Traffic Complaints

Councilor Gray said he was getting some traffic complaints near the William Allen School area and wanted this placed on next month's agenda. Mr. Storer said there will be a couple of neighborhood meetings coming up in the next month or two. Councilor Gray asked if Granite Street was one way going in and if the other streets were one way going out. Mr. Bezanson said that Glen Street is one way going out and that Catherine Street is two way. Councilor Hamann said not much could be done pending what DPW is doing. Deputy Chief Toussaint said he would have one of the officers touch base with the crossing guard in the area. Councilor Gray stated that this area was much improved from a year ago.

Downtown Lights - Brightness

Councilor Lachapelle said he has received a few complaints about the lighting downtown at night; that it is dark near the court house, past Friendly's Restaurant, and near the intersection of Columbus Avenue and Profile Bank. He suggested maybe brighter lights. Mr. Storer said there are approximately 168 downtown street lights that are metered; four years ago the lights were changed to LEDS. Mr. Storer also said that there would be a CIP discussion on street lights.

Councilor Gates made motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:19 PM. Councilor Barnett seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura Miller, Secretary II.