

Public Safety Committee  
Council Chambers  
January 18, 2017  
7:00 PM

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Councilor Peter Lachapelle (excused)

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Michael Bezanson, PE, City Engineer  
Deputy Chief Gary Boudreau  
George & Diane Furbish, 6 Hancock Street

Minutes

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

1. Approve Minutes from November 16, 2016

The first order of business was to approve the November 16, 2016 minutes.

***Councilor Gates made a motion to approve the November 16, 2016 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gray. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.***

2. Public Input

George and Diane Furbish were present to discuss their concerns with the new sign that the owner of Arthur's Market is installing. Mr. Furbish stated that they have lived at 6 Hancock Street for 35 years and that it is a busier area than most people realize. They have been rear ended in this area in the past. The new sign that is being installed will be another distraction for drivers travelling through this area. Councilor Gates suggested that they check with Building, Zoning, & Licensing Services (BZLS) as to whether a permit has been issued for the sign. Mr. Furbish stated that they did go to that department, and that a permit has been issued. The owner of Arthur's Market was required to move the location of the sign out of the City's right-of-way. Councilor Gates said that if a permit is in place then it must meet the requirements of the City, and does not think that the Public Safety Committee can do anything if it meets the requirements. Councilor Hamann said he would follow up with Jim Grant of BZLS to see if anything could be done. Councilor Gates suggested talking to the City Attorney, Terence

O'Rourke, as well. Councilor Gates also suggested that Mr. and Mrs. Furbish contact the owner of Arthur's Market and request a meeting so that they could discuss their concerns with him. Mr. Furbish stated that when the store is closed often the "Open" sign is left illuminated, so he doubts that they will be diligent about turning off the new sign. Councilor Hamann will look into this and get back to Mr. and Mrs. Furbish.

3. Street Light Request for Intersection of 202/Estes Road

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Mr. Bezanson said that this request came into him so he reached out to NH DOT because it is a state maintained road. In their response they outlined the State's criteria: lighting has been used when nighttime accident history is 3 times that of the daytime accident history at an intersection. NHDOT also stated in their response that if the City does desire to have a street light installed at this intersection that it would be the City of Rochester's responsibility to cover the costs associated with the light. Deputy Chief Gary Boudreau said that he checked on the accidents in the area for the last 2 years and in 2015 there was one accident and in 2016 there were two accidents in the area. Councilor Gates said he drives through this area multiple times a day and never felt a street-light was needed in this area. ***Councilor Gray made a motion to deny the street-light request at the Intersection of 202/Estes Road due to the presence of a flashing light and lack of accidents in the area. Councilor Gates seconded the motion. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.***

4. Other

Heritage/Lupine Lane

Councilor Hamann asked Deputy Chief Boudreau if directed patrols could be done in the Heritage St./Lupine Ln. area during the school bus pick-up and drop-off times. The presence of snow banks means standing vehicles are blocking more of the roadway. Deputy Chief Boudreau said he will have directed patrols done in the area. Councilor Hamann will get back to the resident after the next meeting when the data is reported back to the committee.

Portland Street-Speeding

Councilor Barnett said a request came in to have directed patrols done on Portland Street; vehicles are going 40 plus mph during school time.

#### Portland Street-Vehicles Stacking up on Portland Street

Councilor Barnett said there have been vehicles stacking up on Portland Street near the Elementary School during morning drop off and afternoon pick-up. If you're going down the hill you don't immediately see the vehicles. If there were slippery conditions, a vehicle could slide right into another one. Councilor Gray said if you don't want cars parked on Portland Street a letter would have to be sent to the School Board.

#### Morrill Court-Update

Mr. Bezanson gave an update on Morrill Court. He said that a "no outlet" sign is temporarily installed on a utility pole until a pole can be placed in the ground with the proper sign.

#### Blackwater Road/Tebbetts Road-Update

Mr. Bezanson said that the brush and trees have been cleared.

#### 71 Stillwater Circle

Mr. Bezanson stated that the tree at 71 Stillwater Circle was reportedly removed earlier today.

***Councilor Gates made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:33 PM. Councilor Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura Miller, Secretary II.