

Public Safety Committee  
Council Chambers  
August 16, 2017  
7:00 PM

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Councilor Donald Hamann, Chair  
Councilor Peter Lachapelle  
Councilor Robert Gates

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Councilor James Gray  
Councilor Ray Barnett

**OTHERS PRESENT**

Councilor Sandra Keans  
Michael Bezanson, PE, City Engineer  
Deputy Chief Gary Boudreau  
Michael Williams-COAST Bus  
Jim Gelinas, 435 Salmon Falls Rd.  
Amanda Krupski, 68 Ledgeview Drive  
Kevin Hart, 2 Ledgeview Drive  
Carol and Dana Wentworth, 3 Colonial Drive

Minutes

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

1. Approve minutes from June 21, 2017

***Councilor Lachapelle made a motion to approve the June 21, 2017 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gates. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.***

2. Public Input

Michael Williams, Director of Operations for the COAST Bus Company was present to discuss the safety issues at the Route 108 COAST Bus stop across from the Hi-view Hotel. Mr. Williams stated it was dark and that Julian Long of Economic Development recommend that he attend the Public Safety Committee to request a street light. Mr. Bezanson said that this was DOT jurisdiction.

3. COAST Bus Stop - Salmon Falls Rd./Roulx Dr.

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue.

Item # 6 was moved up to item #3, since members of the audience were there to discuss this item. Mr. Jim Gelinas of 435 Salmon Falls Road was present to discuss the COAST bus stop that is in front of his house. He and his wife recently retired and are unable to sleep in do to the COAST bus waking them up when it stops in front of their driveway. He said it's nothing personal against COAST; he thinks it's a great source of transportation. Mr. Williams, Director of Operations, has requested that the COAST bus stop be moved to the intersection of Roulx Drive and Salmon Falls Road and put the sign on the same post as the stop sign. The bus would only stop when passengers needed the stop and would be at the intersection and not right in front of a home. **Councilor Gates made a motion to move the COAST bus stop to the Intersection of Roulx Drive & Salmon Falls Road and put the sign on the same post as the stop sign. The motion was seconded by Councilor Lachapelle. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion. COAST would relocate the sign.**

4. 4-way Stop - Watson Dr/Rochester Ave/Ash Wood Street

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. He asked Deputy Chief Boudreau if there were any accidents in the area. Deputy Chief Boudreau said just minor accidents and that the area was not known for accidents. There is a stop sign on Rochester Avenue and one on Ashwood Drive; Watson Drive has the right of way. Councilor Hamann said he had spoken to Councilor Gray, who lives in the area and he said that he doesn't see a problem at this intersection. No action taken at this time.

5. Ledgeview Drive/Oak St - Speed Limit, Slow Children Playing Sign

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Amanda Krupski of 68 Ledgeview Drive was present to voice her concerns regarding the traffic and speed problem. She lives between the entry of Ledgeview from Oak Street and the apartments on Punch Brook Way. Since the building of the apartments and the condos on the inside of the circle the traffic volume has increased. There are a lot of people who walk and children who play in the area. She has researched speed bumps and speed humps. She stated that the speed humps doesn't delay as much for emergency vehicles she is open to ideas. She would like the speed limit reduced to 25 mph. She said there is a nationwide program called keep kids alive drive 25. There is no signage or crosswalks in the area. Deputy Chief Boudreau said because it is not posted it is considered a 30 mph area. Kevin Hart of 2 Ledgeview Drive said that his fence has been run over twice.

**Councilor Lachapelle made a motion to paint stop bars one coming in**

***and one coming out of Ledgeview Drive. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gates. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion. Councilor Lachapelle made a motion to place three 25 mph signs one coming in on Hansonville Road, one coming in on Oak Street and one on the lower half of Ledgeview Drive near Punch Brook Way at the discretion of DPW. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gates. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.***

6. Turning Lane - Rt. 125

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Carol and Dana Wentworth of 3 Colonial Drive were present to talk about the safety issues in the area. They are requesting a turning lane just before the intersection of 125/Gear Rd/Colonial Drive to the lights at the intersection of 125/Flagg Rd./Rochester Neck Road. Mrs. Wentworth stated that there have been multiple accidents on this stretch of road with people turning left into the Colonial Drive neighborhood. There are also multiple businesses along this stretch of road some of them are Irving, Dunkin Donuts, Black Dog Carwash, Paul Clements Auto Repair, Rochester RV, Bootleggers warehouse, 3 used car dealers, an antique dealer and a hair salon. She said that 2 of their neighbors have been rear ended in the past 2 years. They presented a petition signed by members of their neighborhood requesting a turning lane between Colonial Drive and Rochester Neck Road.. She also stated that there would probably be a savings to the City if there were less accidents. Deputy Chief Boudreau said that he almost got hit in the area while he was checking out the issue for the Public Safety Committee meeting. (petition attached) ***Councilor Lachapelle made a motion to send a letter to the State to request a turning lane between the intersection of 125/Gear Road and Colonial Drive. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gates. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.***

7. No Parking Sign - Charles/McIntire Street

Councilor Hamann summarized the issue. Steve Nichols of 94 Charles Street came in the Public Works Department to request a no parking sign at the corner of McIntyre Court and Charles Street. Mr. Bezanson said that a similar request was brought up before and at the time it was thought the issue was vehicles on McIntyre Court. This was kept in committee and Councilor Hamann will call the resident to get more information on this request.

8. Other

### Stop Sign on Little Falls Bridge Road behind Shell Station

Councilor Hamann said that there used to be a stop sign near the Shell Station but it is no longer there. He believes this was part of the site approval; maybe the sign was taken down while there was construction in the area. Councilor Keans said that is was not the responsibility of the Shell Station to put the sign up again since they did not take it down. ***Councilor Lachapelle made a motion to put the stop sign back up near the Shell Station on Little Falls Bridge Road. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gates. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.***

### Tebbetts Road Speed Trailer Report

Councilor Hamann asked Deputy Chief Boudreau if he had the report from the speed trailer for Tebbetts Road. Deputy Chief Boudreau said no because the speed trailer was hit on Tebbetts Road and they are still trying to get the data off it.

### Highland Street-Update

Deputy Chief Boudreau said that he did have the Highland Street data from the speed trailer. He said that the speed trailer was out there for 1 week and that there was 14,873 vehicles that used Highland Street in this area. He said there was not excessive speeding in the area at the time the speed trailer was placed in the area.

***Councilor Lachapelle made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 PM. Councilor Gates seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.***

*Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura Miller, Secretary II.*

## Safety Committee Meeting August 16, 2017

Topic: Turning lane between just before intersection of 125/Gear Rd/Colonial Drive to the lights at intersection of 125, Flagg Rd/Rochester Neck Road.

Multiple accidents happen in this stretch of road with people turning left into our neighborhood at Colonial Drive and Loring Drive in Gonic. Also, there are multiple businesses along this stretch of road including Irving, Dunkin Donuts, Black Dog carwash, Paul Clements auto repair, Rochester RV, Bootleggers warehouse, 3 used car dealers, an antique dealer and a Hair Salon.

There are frequent accidents on this stretch of road on a regular basis, most of which I have heard happen and immediately call 911 on my cell phone as I live on the corner of 125 and Colonial Drive and can see the accidents. Two of our neighbors have been rear-ended over the past 2 years. All of us are scared and saying a prayer when we have to turn left into our neighborhood. We say a prayer and constantly watch our rear view mirrors waiting for impact if the other drivers are distracted and do not see us, especially with a speed limit of 50 MPH.

Therefore, I present a petition signed by all members of our neighborhood to please get the turning lane a top priority to ease the number of the accidents. No one wants stop lights as

we have too many along 125 to town already and it would only benefit the intersections, not the businesses.

In closing, I also would like to point out the great savings to the city, perhaps over 30,000 dollars per year. Every time the accidents occur, Fire, EMS, and police send several vehicles to each accident and with each time they roll, the city is paying for each and every one.

Please forward this as a strong request to NH DOT as they own the road. Please cite our concerns along with the savings it would make for our city of Rochester.

Thank-you very much,

Carol Wentworth

3 Colonial Drive

Gonic, NH

8/13/17

Resident Concerns about Route 125 request of adding turning lane between Colonial Drive and Rochester Neck Rd. I have already addressed it with the city council and they passed it on to the safety committee who will draft a proposal to the NH DOT as the road is owned by the state. Enclosed is a copy of my letter to the city council.

Thank-you, Carol and Dana Wentworth 3 Colonial Drive

Please sign this petition and I will bring it to the safety committee meeting this Wednesday August 16<sup>th</sup>. Anyone else who would like to come to the meeting is welcome to at 7 PM

colonial Gerti Woodley  
sharon's way Karen Hawn  
colonial Wm N  
colonial Claude Landy  
colonial Jalpee Handley  
birch Marty Raybin  
birch Raven Bracken  
birch Rhod E Zebell  
birch Ala Calif  
birch Danner Calif  
loring Brenda Sprung

Stephen Foster loring  
JOHN McCARTY loring  
Mary Desmarais loring  
Sue Lorenz loring  
Beverly A Kenison loring  
BF aspen  
Frank Madew landy  
Chm. Jean aspen  
Anay Lavori aspen  
Mesa Miano aspen  
Cassandra Lawrie aspene

8/13/17

Dear neighbor,

I am collecting signatures for a turning lane on Route 125 so we do not have to fear getting hit when we are waiting to turn into our neighborhood.

Since you are not home, if you would sign the petition and leave it in the metal box by our mailbox, we would greatly appreciate it.

I have contacted the city council of Rochester and I will be attending the safety committee meeting this Wednesday August 16<sup>th</sup> and present the petition. Anyone is welcome to this meeting. It is at the town hall at 7 PM.

Thank-you so much,

Carol and Dana Wentworth

THANK YOU for doing this!

We will be out of town Wednesday & unable to attend the meeting - but good luck! We'd love to see this happen.

-Brienne N.S.

8/13/17

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birch  
birch

Brianne N. St. Pierre  
Jerry Nickless

Brighton  
Jerry Nickless

6 white  
Birch Ln  
332-5888

8 /13/17

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Kubaly Cole (2 Landry Ln)

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR DOING THIS! IT IS HORRIBLE SITTING ON 125 TRYING TO TURN INTO OUR NEIGHBORHOOD, NEVER MIND TRYING TO TAKE A LEFT OUT OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD onto 125S!

8/13/17

Dear neighbor,

I am collecting signatures for a turning lane on Route 125 so we do not have to fear getting hit when we are waiting to turn into our neighborhood.

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Thank-you so much,

Carol and Dana Wentworth

Dear Carol and Dana,

Thank you for doing this. We couldn't agree with you more. Our family can be added to your list of those hit (rear ended) while trying to turn onto Loring Rd. Unfortunately we are not available to attend the safety meeting tomorrow night but good luck and I hope the council appreciates the severity of this request.

BRIAN GENTLE

8./13/17

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Landry BRIAN GENTLE  
Landry Brenda Gentle

5 Landry Lane  
5 Landry Lane

8/13/17

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I am collecting signatures for a turning lane on Route 125 so we do not have to fear getting hit when we are waiting to turn into our neighborhood.

Since you are not home, if you would sign the petition and leave it in the metal box by our mailbox, we would greatly appreciate it.

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Thank-you so much,

Carol and Dana Wentworth

Thank you for doing this!! This section of road could use not only a ~~no~~ turn lane, but we could use a stop light and a lower speed limit!

8 / 13 / 17

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colonial Robert Breezer

8 /13/17

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Richard W. Scelza, Jr → RICHARD W. SCELZA, JR  
Lynda K. Scelza → LYNDA K. SCELZA (4 ASPIRIN)

8 /13/17

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birch James Nichols 8-15-17

8/13/17

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colonial Arthur Penn

colonial Carol Wentworth

colonial Joe Galloway

colonial Dona J. Wentworth

AUG 13/17

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Macci Russo

8/13/17

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Landry

Carolyn Grant & Landry Lane

Alan M. Grant Landry

8/13/17

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loring Jane Sommer \_\_\_\_\_  
loring Joe Sommer \_\_\_\_\_  
loring Courtney Doris \_\_\_\_\_  
loring Michael NoeRIS \_\_\_\_\_  
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8 //13/17

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Loring Ella Holden

8/13/17

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aspen Hyn P. Lavori

aspen Alego Lavori

8/13/17

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birch

Karen Sorenson

\_\_\_\_\_

birch

M. R. P.

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8. 13/17

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colonial Midwest  
colonial DW

8/13/17

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birch Alex Wilson  
birch Maryel Melnyk

8. 13/17

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## colonial

12 Colonial Drive.

8/13/17

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aspen Wayne + Carol Countryman

loving Norman Mearby