

Public Safety Committee
Council Chambers
August 15, 2018
7:00 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councilor David Walker
Councilor Robert Gates
Councilor Geoff Hamann
Councilor Jeremy Hutchinson
Councilor Peter Lachapelle

OTHERS PRESENT

Michael Bezanson, PE, City Engineer
Gary Boudreau, Deputy Police Chief
Dan Camara, GIS/Asset Mgmt. Technician
Peggy Lynch, Ten Rod Road Resident

Minutes

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

1, Public Input

Peggy Lynch is a Rochester resident and owns a business on Wakefield Street. She was there to talk about the crosswalks on Wakefield Street. She stated that the crosswalk on North Main Street by the Lilac City Grill looks nice. She has a concern about a crosswalk on Wakefield Street. She said that on Tuesday nights there is a group of seniors called the Good Old Sports; they cross Wakefield Street to get to the cafeteria double doors at Spaulding High School. The request was made for a crosswalk at this entrance to the school, as the nearest crosswalk is 90-feet to the north. Councilor Walker said he was not sure if there were any curb cuts in the area, the crosswalk may be able to be moved to the south a little; Mr. Bezanson agreed. Councilor Lachapelle asked when the full reconstruction was going to take place; he suggested that the crosswalk could be moved now temporarily and later it could be figured out where the best place to put it would be during the reconstruction project. Councilor Lachapelle made a motion to move the crosswalk 90-feet to the south. Councilor Gates seconded the motion. Councilor Hamann said they might want to talk to the school before they move it. Councilor Walker said they could just add an additional crosswalk. ***The motion was amended by Councilor Lachapelle to add a crosswalk on Wakefield Street at the walkway to the Spaulding High School cafeteria***

entrance. Councilor Gates seconded the motion. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

2. E911 Update

Deputy Chief Boudreau stated that the committee met that morning. He is in the process of submitting an Agenda Bill to the City Manager that hopes will be presented at the September 4, 2018 City Council meeting for a public hearing to renumber Eastern Avenue. Two other locations need number changes and the Committee is hoping that this will be a voluntary change-Common Street and Partridge Green Apartments. Right now Partridge Green apartments is considered 81 Old Dover Road, and there are four buildings. They want to rename as Partridge Green Way and have the four buildings numbered.

3. Emergency Management Updates

There was no member of the fire department present to provide an emergency management update.

4. 10 Yvonne Street-Street Light Request

Councilor Walker summarized the issue. He said a request came in from Michael McLean of 10 Yvonne Street. Michael McLean recently moved there and noted that his home and the one next door are new, having just been completed this year, so there is no streetlight in this area of Yvonne Street. He is requesting to have a streetlight installed on the existing pole outside of his home. Councilor Lachapelle stated that it the streetlights currently installed along Yvonne meet the streetlight policy. There is a streetlight at the intersection of Ten Rod Road, then the third pole down at the intersection of Darrell Street, and then another one 3 poles down. Mr. Bezanson said he has not been in the area at night to see how dark it is. Councilor Walker said they could move the streetlights down. Councilor Hamann said if you move the streetlight from the corner it would defeat the streetlight policy, and he said he could not support moving the streetlight from the corner. **Councilor Hamman made a motion to deny the streetlight request on Yvonne Street. The motion was seconded by Councilor Lachapelle. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.**

5. Four Rod Road-Speeding Issues-Request 2" Galvanized Pole and Mirror & Blind Driveway Sign

Councilor Walker summarized the issue. Frank Bernard of 156 Four Rod Road has requested a 2" galvanized pole and a mirror to help prevent a bad accident from happening near his property. There is a small rise in the road. He also requested a "blind driveway" sign as you approach his driveway from Meaderboro Road. He said he would be willing to do the work himself; he just needs to know the next course of action to take. Councilor Lachapelle said he would recommend that he could put something up if he would like too. Councilor Hamann said he did not think the City would put a mirror up. Councilor Walker said that is not the policy. **Councilor Hamann made a motion to deny a "blind driveway" sign on Four Rod Road. The motion was seconded by Councilor Lachapelle. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.** Councilor Hamann said he would like to have DPW talk directly to the property owner regarding the mirror request.

6. Other

Stop Sign-Bickford Road

A request came in for a "stop" sign

A request came in for a "stop" sign northbound on Bickford Road where the gravel road becomes pavement. Councilor Hamann said the pavement goes to Dustin Homestead. Deputy Chief Boudreau stated that Dustin Homestead is private. Mr. Bezanson said he was not sure how much of Bickford Road is a Class 6 Road. Councilor Lachapelle's recommendation was to reach out to Dustin Homestead. **Councilor Lachapelle made a motion to install a "stop" sign on City property facing Dustin Homestead at the discretion of DPW. The motion was seconded by Councilor Gates. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion.**

Old Dover Road/Tebbetts Road

Mr. Bezanson said that there was a fatal accident at the Intersection of Tebbetts Road and Old Dover Road recently. The State DOT has a Road Safety Audit program and the City and Strafford Regional Planning Commission will be putting an application together to submit to the DOT. Councilor Walker asked exactly what a Road Safety Audit was. Mr. Bezanson said that it is a way for the DOT to engage professional knowledge, analyze an area through a site visit, accident

data, crash diagrams, and come up with a safety improvement plan. Deputy Chief Boudreau said he has reviewed the data in two time periods. December 2005 to January 2012, there were 38 accidents, failure to yield and 1 rear end with no fatal accidents at that time. In 2012, the City moved a stop bar on Tebbetts Road because there was a utility pole blocking the line-of-sight, and additional blinking red lights on the stop signs and “cross traffic does not stop” signs were added. February 2012 to August 2018 there were 43 accidents with 1 fatal. Seven of the accidents were rear end accidents on Old Dover Road and three of them were because they thought it was a four-way stop even though there are no “stop” signs on Old Dover. The rest were failure to yield right of way. The rear end accidents were up by six over the previous six-year period. Deputy Chief Boudreau said that the Department is continuing to compile data.

Councilor Walker made a motion to send a letter to the State for some action with this intersection with the data attached. Councilor Lachapelle seconded the motion. Unanimous voice vote carried the motion. Deputy Chief Boudreau said the speed trailer would be placed in the area.

Cross Road/Betts Road-Line of Sight Issue

Mr. Bezanson said that DPW received an email from Ron and Theresa Simard of 88 Cross Road. They stated that although there have been no fatalities, there are serious safety issues at the intersection of Cross Road and Betts Road. Mr. Bezanson stated that in 2016 DPW took down a large tree to improve line-of-sight at this intersection. He said that there is some growth coming back. There is a large mound and rock wall on that corner. Councilor Walker asked if the mound of dirt was private or in the City right of way. Mr. Bezanson said he thinks it is probably right at the right of way line, and the City would likely have to work with the property owner. Councilor Hamann asked if DPW keeps a list of the problem intersections. Mr. Bezanson said yes, and that he would have the Cross Road/Betts Road intersection added to the list.

Sylvain/Washington Street-Line of Sight Issue

Mr. Bezanson said that DPW received a call from Christine Allen of 22 Sylvain Street complaining of a line-of-sight issue when pulling out of Sylvain onto Washington Street. Although DPW has striped a portion of Washington Street for no parking at this intersection, vehicles parked in the remaining parking area continue to block the vision of those attempting to pull out of Sylvain. and. Councilor Hamann said a van has been parked there almost every day.

Councilor Walker said if the entire area is striped for no parking, the house nearby will lose the on-street parking. Councilor Hamann said it is the one vehicle that parks there. Councilor Lachapelle said DPW or the Police Department could find out who is parking there and try to work with the individual, if he does not want to lose more parking. Deputy Chief Boudreau said they could talk to them, but until it is striped there is nothing to enforce. Councilor Walker asked if they are close to the intersection. Councilor Hamann said yes. Councilor Walker said leave one car length. Councilor Hamann said that is what there is now and it will be the same issue with the plow trucks. Councilor Gates asked if there have been many accidents. Deputy Chief Boudreau said he did not think so but he will have to look. This request was kept in committee pending accident data information.

Ten Rod Road Update

Deputy Chief Boudreau said the speed trailer was placed in 2 areas on Ten Rod Road; it was there for 22 days in the 2 locations. It was placed near Capitol Circle and Thomas Street and another area near a person's house that had said there was a speeding issue. There were a total of 47,895 vehicles; the average speed was 34.94 mph and the posted speed limit is 30 mph. The 80th percentile speed was 40.7. Councilor Walker said a little faster than post speed, but not terrible.

Portland Street Update

Deputy Chief Boudreau said the speed trailer was placed by the school for 8 days with a total of 13,316 vehicles with the average speed being 32.73 and the 85th percentile being 37.76. Deputy Chief Boudreau said that the speed trailer will be on Old Dover Road next by the intersection.

North Main Street- Signs

Councilor Hamann said that he has received complaints about the new bright yellow crosswalk signs that were placed on North Main Street. He said the people are looking at the sign rather than the crosswalk and it is doing the opposite of what they are supposed to do.

Unregistered Vehicles Parking

Councilor Lachapelle asked Deputy Chief Boudreau about unregistered vehicles parked in parking spaces. Deputy Chief Boudreau said it was not allowed. Councilor Lachapelle said there is an unregistered vehicle on Church Street in Gonic by the church. Deputy Chief Boudreau said he would check it out.

Councilor Lachapelle made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:44 PM. Councilor Hamann seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura Miller, Secretary II.



Extended Speed Summary Report

Generated by Gary Boudreau from City of Rochester (NH) on Aug 15, 2018 at 4:55:33 PM

Time of Day: 0:00 to 23:59

Site: Ten Rod Road SB, SB

Dates: 7/17/2018 to 8/7/2018

Overall Summary

Total Days of Data: 22

Speed Limit: 30

Average Speed: 34.94

50th Percentile Speed: 35.64

85th Percentile Speed: 40.97

Pace Speed Range: 31.0-41.0

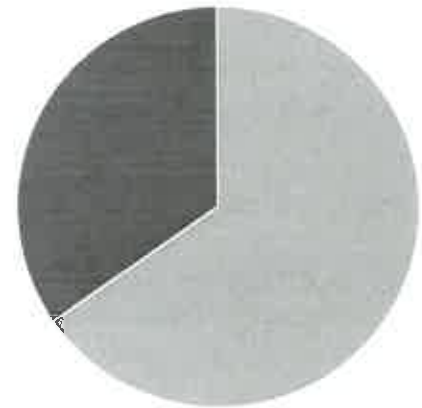
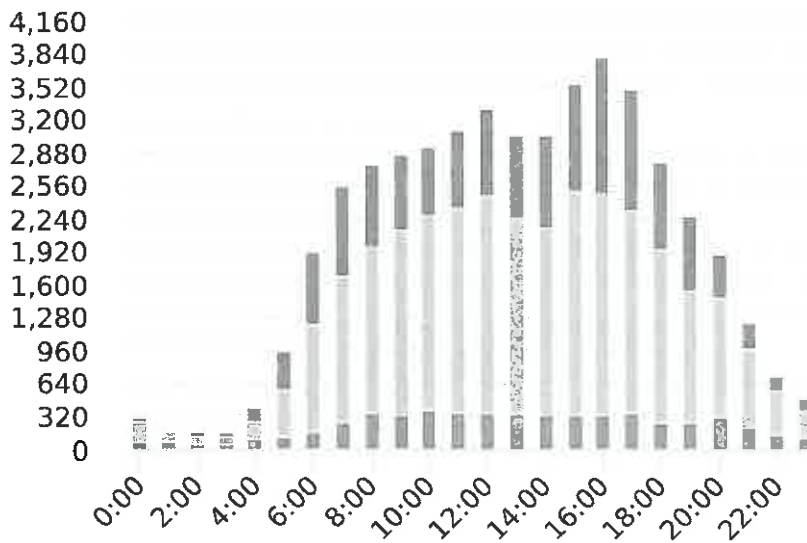
Minimum Speed: 5.0

Maximum Speed: 84.0

Display Status: Display Off

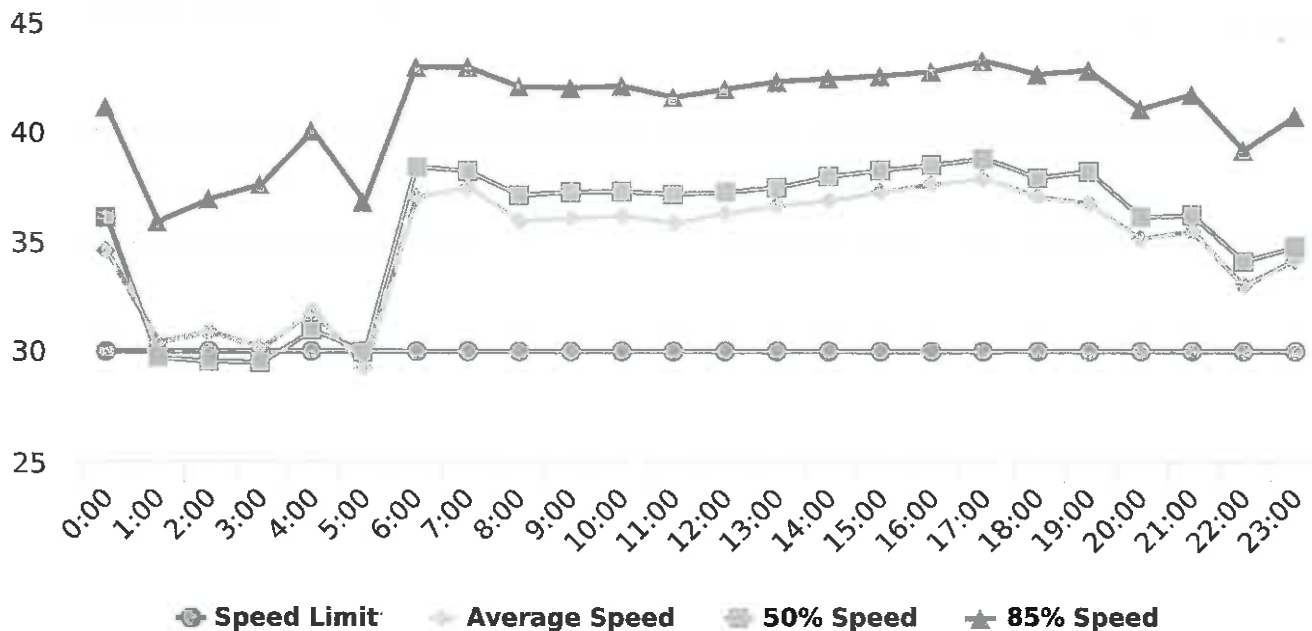
Average Volume per Day: 2177.0

Total Volume: 47895.0



Violators Inside Threshold Compliant

Vehicles Slowed Other



Speed Limit Average Speed 50% Speed 85% Speed



Extended Speed Summary Report

Generated by Gary Boudreau from City of Rochester (NH) on Aug 15, 2018 at 4:56:14 PM

Time of Day: 0:00 to 23:59

Site: Portland St, NB

Dates: 8/7/2018 to 8/14/2018

Overall Summary

Total Days of Data: 8

Speed Limit: 30

Average Speed: 32.73

50th Percentile Speed: 33.26

85th Percentile Speed: 37.76

Pace Speed Range: 29.0-39.0

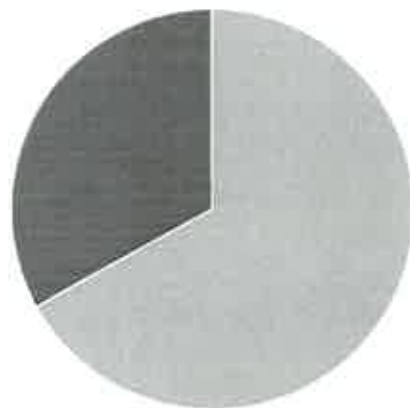
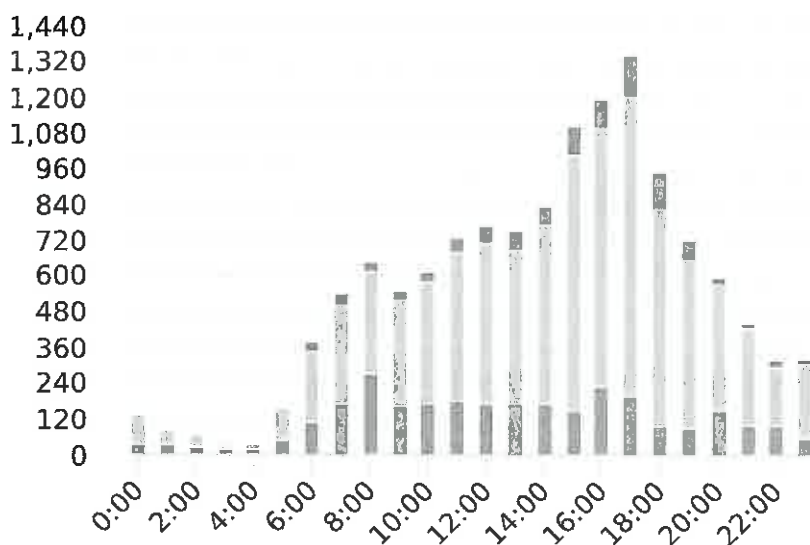
Minimum Speed: 5.0

Maximum Speed: 89.0

Display Status: Display Off

Average Volume per Day: 1664.5

Total Volume: 13316.0



Violators Inside Threshold Compliant

Vehicles Slowed Other

