

COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC/PUBLIC SAFETY

April 16, 1996

6:30 PM

Chairman Sysyn called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

PRESENT: Ald. Sysyn, Reiniger, Soucy, Domaingue, Robert

MESSRS.: A. Gaudreault, R. Davis, R. Girard, R. Sidore,
J. Taylor, T. Lolicata

Chairman Sysyn advised that Item 3 would be deferred to later in the meeting as Mr. Girard, Mayoral Assistant, wished to address the matter and was not present.

Chairman Sysyn addressed item 4 of the agenda:

Communication from staff regarding the scope and definitions relative to the committee on Traffic/Public Safety.

On motion of Ald. Domaingue, duly seconded by Ald. Soucy, it was voted to approve the communication.

Chairman Sysyn advised that the Traffic Department has submitted an agenda which needs to be addressed as follows:

NO PARKING ANYTIME:

ON GLENWOOD AVENUE, SOUTH SIDE, FROM HARRIMAN STREET TO A POINT
100 FEET EASTERLY (EMERGENCY ACT)
ALDERMAN CASHIN

ON TEXTILE COURT, SOUTH SIDE, FROM COMMERCIAL STREET TO THE DEAD
END
ALDERMAN REINIGER

ON PORTSMOUTH AVENUE, WEST SIDE, FROM LAKE AVENUE TO A POINT 60
FEET SOUTHERLY
ALDERMAN CLANCY

NO PARKING DURING SCHOOL HOURS:

ON CARTIER STREET, EAST SIDE, FROM HECKER STREET TO THE DEAD END
ALDERMAN ROBERT

PARKING 15 MINUTES ONLY:

ON HANOVER STREET, NORTH SIDE, FROM PAGE STREET TO A POINT 100 FEET EASTERLY

ALDERMAN SYSYN

ON PAGE STREET, EAST SIDE, FROM HANOVER STREET TO A POINT 40 FEET NORTHERLY

ALDERMAN SYSYN

PARKING 1 HOUR (8AM-6PM):

ON MAPLE STREET, EAST SIDE, FROM AMHERST STREET TO A POINT 65 FEET SOUTHERLY

ALDERMAN SYSYN

PARKING 2 HOURS (8AM-6PM):

ON CHESTNUT STREET, WEST SIDE, FROM SAGAMORE STREET TO A POINT 190 FEET NORTHERLY

ALDERMAN REINIGER

ON SAGAMORE STREET, NORTH SIDE, FROM CHESTNUT STREET TO A POINT 105 FEET WESTERLY

ALDERMAN REINIGER

On motion of Ald. Soucy, duly seconded by Ald. Reiniger, it was voted to approve all regulations as submitted.

TABLED ITEMS

Ordinance submitted by Chief Kane, Fire Department
(Tabled 3/25/96):

"An Ordinance establishing an Office of Emergency Management for the City of Manchester."

The Fire Chief advised they were in process of drafting a new ordinance after having met with other departments. This item remained on the table.

Communication from Richard Girard, Mayoral Assistant, forwarding materials from Mrs. Cecile Gravel of Corey Square Hair Design, requesting a permanent solution to the parking situation on Maple/Concord Streets.

(Tabled 3/25/96)

Chairman Sysyn advised that departments were looking at this situation and that the item would remain on the table at this time.

Communication from Ald. Reiniger submitting proposed City penalties and revisions to existing City ordinances.
(Tabled 2/26/96)

This item remained on the table.

Communication from the Amherst Street Business Owners, submitting a proposed parking arrangement on Amherst and Vine Streets.
(Tabled 2/26/96)

This item remained on the table.

NEW BUSINESS

Armand Gaudreault addressed the Committee advising that the Quality Management Team is requesting that parking stickers be provided to the Downtown City employees for use at the Hartnett or Pearl Street lots. A general discussion ensued where it was concluded that Mr. Gaudreault would submit a letter to the Committee for its next meeting.

Chairman Sysyn addressed item 3 of the agenda:

Request of Mayor Wieczorek regarding a parking proposal affecting the Downtown and Millyard areas with a proposed new rate structure and devised parking system.

Mr. Girard addressed the Committee utilizing a map display and provided members with a garage rate structure handout. Mr. Girard explained in detail utilizing the map display what the current parking situation was in the Downtown/Millyard area, and then reflected on the details of the proposed plan. Within his presentation, Mr. Girard noted that the focus was to have short term parking in the retail/business area and long-term parking in the outer areas. Mr. Girard additionally noted that the short term parking would be at a rate of 50 cents per hour for the first four hours. Revenues generated when the proposal was fully utilized was \$1.2 million. Mr. Girard commented that the proposal was based on the 1992 Downtown Business Council proposal explained the reasons for changing the parking structure including the high abuse of the current timed zones. In response to questions Mr. Girard advised that they had included \$650,000 in the Traffic Department's revenues in the proposed budget, and \$150,000 in the expense budget of Traffic for implementation. Mr. Girard also noted the proposed CIP project to reconfigure Elm Street with diagonal parking. In response to questions from Ald. Domaingue who was concerned for shoppers and other users of the Downtown area, Mr. Girard advised that he could provide a comparison on the 50 cent per hour rate with other communities. It was noted that Concord was 25 cents per hour.

Mr. Davis, In Town Manager, addressed the Committee advising that he would like to have the Committee delay action for 30 days to allow time for him to speak with area businesses and to calculate the impact to the Downtown and Millyard area. Mr. Davis touched upon the purpose for parking and revenues as a general principal of a means to an end for a more active and attractive mixed use center stating it should maximize short term parking and encourage long term user to off street lots, with easy access, good signage and mapping. Prices are best structured for value of short term higher so the long term doesn't use it. Mr. Davis noted that maximizing revenues can mean increasing volume rather than price and he wished to explore the potential for a validation system where a validation of an hour in return of a sale.

Mr. Ralph Sidore addressed the Committee as Manager of 150 Arms Street commenting on his involvement with a comprehensive plan for the Millyard which currently was in effect and noting that the plan was doing what was intended when proposed by the Millyard businesses. Mr. Sidore noted that one of the open parks was recently changed to leasing and people were ticked without notice to the Millyard owners and tenants.

Mr. Jay Taylor, Industrial Agent, commented on the importance of the City having a comprehensive parking plan.

On motion of Ald. Reiniger, duly seconded by Ald. Soucy, it was voted to table the matter for 30 days.

There being no further business to come before the Committee on Traffic, on motion of Ald. Soucy, duly seconded by Ald. Domainque, it was voted to adjourn.

A True Record. Attest.


Clerk of Committee