

COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC/
PUBLIC SAFETY

September 17, 1996

6:30 PM

Chairman Sysyn called the meeting to order.

Present: Ald. Sysyn, Reiniger, Soucy, Domaingue.
Absent: Ald. Robert

Chairman Sysyn first addressed item 10 of the agenda:

10. Communication from Building Commissioner Gaudreault, QM Committee Member, submitting a proposal whereby a policy could be established to allow City employees to utilize at no cost, up to 20 percent of the uncommitted capacity in the city's parking garages and lots such spaces being allocated by the Traffic Department on a "first-come, first-serve" basis.
(Tabled 8/26/96)

On motion of Ald. Soucy, duly seconded by Ald. Domaingue, it was voted to remove this item from the table.

A lengthy discussion ensued where Mr. David Waldecker of National Garages advised that he could make available spaces in the Canal Street Parking Garage for city employees. There would be an up front fee to the employees for the card. Concern was noted by the Health Department relative to community health nurses and others who would have to walk to the garage, bring their car to the building for loading, and then go out, there was a cost to city for employee time in these cases and a closer proximity for parking would be more appropriate in that instance. The Welfare Commissioner noted that they had a half-empty parking lot behind their building and it would seem to make more sense for her employees to be parking there. A validation sticker system was then considered. Ald. Domaingue noted concern with not having numbers and details in front of the committee and was not comfortable making decisions without the information. Other concern was commented on other employees in the downtown area having problems with city employees receiving free parking. Chairman Sysyn noted that the employee parking issue had been reviewed and discussed since the late 80's, and the city had agreed to look at it because of the inequities in the personnel system with Highway, Parks and other employees having free parking and others not.

A question was raised relative to the lease of space in the Franklin Street Parking lot by McQuades. Discussion ensued where it was noted that they were still utilizing the space and making payments outlined by the lease agreement but that the lease agreement authority had expired and this issue needed to be addressed and a determination made for the longer term. It was not clear at this time as to what McQuades wished to do.

On motion of Ald. Soucy, duly seconded by Ald. Reiniger, it was voted to table this item pending further report from the Building Commissioner, Traffic Director, Police Chief and Health Officer with mapping, employee numbers, space numbers for each lot or garage and associated costs.

On motion of Ald. Domainque, duly seconded by Ald. Reiniger, it was voted to have the City Solicitor and Traffic Director look into the lease of the Franklin Lot.

Communication from Ken Feldman, C.B. Sullivan, requesting the use of the Impound/Riverfest lot for overflow parking on September 29-30, 1996, in conjunction with their annual Fall Beauty Class to be held at the Center of New Hampshire/Holiday Inn.

On motion of Ald. Reiniger, duly seconded by Ald. Soucy, it was voted to approve the request subject to appropriate departmental approvals.

Chairman Sysyn addressed item number 4 of the agenda:

4. Communication from Diane Stiefel, requesting the closure of Pearl Street from Elm Street to the Pearl Street Parking lot on Saturday, October 5, 1996 from 12:00 PM to 8:00 PM in conjunction with a planned Antique Car Show.

On motion of Ald. Soucy, duly seconded by Ald. Domainque, it was voted to approve the request subject to appropriate departmental approvals.

Chairman Sysyn addressed item 5 of the agenda:

5. Communication from Darrell Wozniak, requesting the placement of "Drive Slow Children" signs at both ends of Gove Street and requesting that the speed limit be reduced to "20 MPH".

Mr. Lolicata advised that the 20 MPH was not allowed under the law but he could assist by placing up drive slow children signs. He noted that he had attempted to contact this person on a few occasions to no avail.

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On motion of Ald. Domaingue, duly seconded by Ald. Soucy, it was voted to receive and file the communication with the understanding that Mr. Lolicata would address the requested signage.

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

STOP SIGNS:

ON SARGENT ROAD AT GOFFS FALLS ROAD, SEC
ON BERNICE AVENUE AT BRYANT ROAD, SWC
ON MEADOW GLEN DRIVE AT BRYANT ROAD, SWC
ON SKYLINE DRIVE AT BRYANT ROAD, SWC
ON PEPPERIDGE DRIVE AT WESTWOOD DRIVE, SEC
ALDERMAN DOMAINGUE

ON WATERMAN STREET AT BAKER STREET, SEC
ALDERMAN PARISEAU

ON PLYMOUTH STREET AT ROCKLAND AVENUE, NEC, SWC
ALDERMAN CASHIN

RESCIND STOP SIGNS:

ON CRESCENT ROAD AT MEADOW STREET, NWC
ALDERMAN PARISEAU

NO PARKING ANYTIME:

ON CEDAR STREET, SOUTH SIDE, FROM WILSON STREET TO A POINT 180
FEET WESTERLY
ALDERMAN CLANCY

NO PARKING HANDICAP ONLY:

ON DIX STREET, SOUTH SIDE, FROM A POINT 55 FEET EAST OF TAYLOR
STREET TO A POINT 25 FEET EASTERLY
ALDERMAN SHEA

NO PARKING LOADING ZONE:

ON HANOVER STREET, NORTH SIDE, FROM CHESTNUT STREET TO A POINT 50
FEET WESTERLY
ALDERMAN REINIGER

RESCIND PARKING 2 HOURS (METER #2483):

ON HANOVER STREET, NORTH SIDE, FROM CHESTNUT STREET TO A POINT 50
FEET WESTERLY
ALDERMAN REINIGER

PARKING 2 HOURS (8AM-6PM):

ON BROOK STREET, NORTH SIDE, FROM A POINT 80 FEET EAST OF ELM
STREET TO ELM EAST BACK STREET
ALDERMAN REINIGER

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RESCIND NO PARKING ANYTIME:

ON BROOK STREET, NORTH SIDE, FROM A POINT 80 FEET EAST OF ELM STREET TO ELM EAST BACK STREET
ALDERMAN REINIGER

ELMWOOD GARDENS --

STOP SIGNS:

ON O'MALLEY STREET AT TRAHAN STREET, SWC
ON O'MALLEY STREET AT AHERN STREET, NEC
ON TRAHAN STREET AT AHERN STREET, NWC, SEC
POLICE DEPARTMENT

RESCIND STOP SIGNS:

ON O'MALLEY STREET AT ELM STREET, SWC
ON O'MALLEY STREET AT BROWN AVENUE, NEC
POLICE DEPARTMENT

CROSSWALKS:

ACROSS O'MALLEY STREET, BETWEEN TRAHAN STREET AND AHERN STREET
ACROSS AHERN STREET, BETWEEN O'MALLEY STREET AND TRAHAN STREET
POLICE DEPARTMENT

NO PARKING ANYTIME:

ON TRAHAN STREET, WEST SIDE, FROM AHERN STREET TO O'MALLEY STREET
ON O'MALLEY STREET, NORTH SIDE, FROM TRAHAN STREET TO AHERN STREET
ON AHERN STREET SOUTH SIDE, FROM O'MALLEY STREET TO TRAHAN STREET
POLICE DEPARTMENT

ADDITIONS:

RESCIND PARKING 15 MINUTES (8AM-9PM) 7 DAYS A WEEK

ON ORANGE STREET, NORTH SIDE, FROM A POINT 140 FEET WEST OF UNION STREET TO A POINT 75 FEET WESTERLY.
ALD. REINIGER.

PARKING 15 MINUTES (8AM-9PM) 7 DAYS A WEEK

ON ORANGE STREET, NORTH SIDE, FROM A POINT 175 FEET WEST OF UNION STREET TO A POINT 40 FEET WESTERLY.
ALD. REINIGER

STOP SIGNS

ON GEM DRIVE AT KENBERMA STREET, NWC
ON VAL STREET AT KENBERMA STREET, NWC
ON MURPHY STREET AT KENBERMA STREET, NWC
ON DEVCO DRIVE AT KENBERMA STREET, NWC
ALD. PARISEAU -- Pursuant to petition received.

On motion of Ald. Domaingue, duly seconded by Ald. Soucy, it was voted to approve the Traffic Department Agenda with additions as submitted.

DISCUSSION:

HIGHWAY FUNCTIONAL CLASSIFICATION FOR MANCHESTER

Mr. Lolicata displayed maps which had been done as a result of a previous traffic study conducted by Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission. Mr. Lolicata briefly described that the maps reflected the through streets, arterial roads, connecting roadways and other streets within the city.

A somewhat lengthy discussion ensued relative to the issue of speed on the city streets which Ald. Domaingue commented was intolerable and had to be addressed. Other members concurred that speed was a problem throughout the city which the police did not have sufficient staff to address and a more complete method of dealing with the issue needed to be looked at.

Within discussion Ald. Domaingue noted her objection to having South Porter Street and Jewett Street reflected as through roadways commenting on the four schools in the quadrant area. General discussion of through streets followed.

Mr. MacKenzie noted that he had been working on the issue of speed for some time with other departments it having been a concern discussed at the Planning and Zoning Board meetings, Traffic and Board meetings and other meetings he had attended. Mr. MacKenzie commented that there were alternatives that other cities in the US and Europe were developing in terms of roadway design programs to slow the traffic down. Ald. Domaingue noted the need to place addressing of the speed issue on a fast track given that it effected the quality of life for residents and people would not want to live here if it continued.

On motion of Ald. Soucy, duly seconded by Ald. Domaingue, it was voted to table discussion of the matter pending further report from Mr. MacKenzie.

NEW BUSINESS:

In Town Management Parking Proposal

A proposal was presented to the committee the In-Town Management the purpose of which was to promote off-street parking availability in downtown Manchester. A brief presentation was made outlining strategies of the proposal to create shopper zones

in the garages, officer free parking in the garages and restructure permit parking in the garages. Mr. David Waldecker of National Garages commented that some of the ideas were similar to those done in Michigan which had experienced some success. Following brief discussion, on motion of Ald. Reiniger, duly seconded by Ald. Domainque, it was voted to approve the proposal.

Flashing Beacon - River Road and West Webster Streets

Ald. Reiniger presented the committee with an estimate of costs to install a flashing beacon at the intersection of River Road and West Webster Streets. Ald. Reiniger noted the accidents occurring in the area warranted same. Mr. Lolicata concurred that the intersection was a problem. Ald. Reiniger noted that the beacon could be paid for from existing funds of the Traffic Department. Mr. Lolicata concurred.

On motion of Ald. Domainque, duly seconded by Ald. Reiniger, it was voted to approve the request for a flashing beacon at River Road and West Webster Streets same to be installed through existing Traffic Department resources.

Manchester On Parade -- request for Arms Park

The clerk advised that the upcoming parade was intending to utilize Arms Park as a gathering place for floats, etc. for the parade according to the newspaper. The clerk noted that the organizers had not submitted an official request, however, since the clerk's office was attempting to work on other licensing issues with the organizers, was requesting on their behalf the use of the park for that purpose, subject to meeting other requirements of police, etc.

On motion of Ald. Domainque, duly seconded by Ald. Reiniger, it was voted to approve the request for use of Arms Park.

TABLED ITEMS

The following items remained on the table:

7. Communication from Ald. Reiniger submitting proposed revisions to existing City ordinances.
(Tabled 2/26/96)
8. Communication from former Chief Favreau, requesting consideration that 10-hour meters along the south side of Manchester Street, between Pine Street and the driveway to the Police station be installed.
(Tabled 5/21/96)

9. Communication from Mary McKillop, Optima Health Visiting Nurse Services, requesting that the alley (Chandler Street) behind their location at 1850 Elm Street be changed to a one-way running from north to south.
(Tabled 6/4/96)

11. Discussion with Highway and Police Departments regarding the development and/or recommendations for methods of slowing down traffic on certain neighborhood streets.
(Tabled 8/26/96)

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

A True Record. Attest.


Clerk of Committee


