

**COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC/
PUBLIC SAFETY**

July 15, 1997

6:30 PM

Chairman Sysyn called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Sysyn, Reiniger, Soucy, Domaingue, Robert

Messrs.: Asst. Solicitor Arnold, Fred Harris, Tom Lolicata, Lt. M. Tessier

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman Sysyn addressed items of new business as follows:

Discussion with Mr. Fred Harris relative to a request by Riverfest, Inc. of relocating this year's activities from Stark Landing to Arms Park.

On motion of Alderman Reiniger, duly seconded by Alderman Robert, it was voted to approve the request for relocation of Riverfest activities from Stark Landing to Arms Park.

Mr. Harris stated the reason we moved in the first place was because we had problems with tenants down there with respect to parking, etc. plus it was outgrowing the park which was why, with the help of a couple of Aldermen we created the park down at Hobo Jungle which is being reverted to some other use at this time. They had just started cutting trees and there is no way they are going to have it ready for us, so decisions had to be made. Last Thursday we decided to see if we could go back to Arms Park and talked to the Mayor and requested a poll be conducted of the Board. I talked to Rita Frost with whom I have a very good relationship with and she hadn't read the paper, unfortunately. But, she said she would be happy to work with me and will send me a letter of all of the demands and so forth because we have made a lot of changes, but we have worked with Rita in the past and have had no problems with her. As far as Cafe Pavone, I'm not really too concerned about that, I think he is going to welcome us back now as I understand it through rumors and the grapevine and we'll see what happens. I will meet with everybody in that park within the next two weeks. I talked with

Rita for an hour today and I'm going to meet with her again next week, so I have no problems down there. We're going to talk to the Traffic Department, City Hall will help us displace these vehicles because there are about 300 cars down there that will have to be displaced for about a week and the City is going to give us a garage to use and it's costly for us to go back there compared to where we were because we have to move these cars and have to have transportation for all these people back and forth to work. So, I'm working with Tom Lolicata and we'll get that done and we'll see who has permits and we'll notify them all and will be furnishing buses back and forth. Luckily, the week of Riverfest is coming off of Labor Day weekend so Monday is a holiday and it will probably be a short week, so hopefully it should be fine. The show's ready to go, we just have to work out a few details.

Alderman Reiniger stated a lot of people I have spoken with are very pleased that you are returning to Arms Park.

Mr. Harris stated on the 3rd of July during the fireworks, I spend the entire night down there. I must have talked to 30 or 40 people on purpose from all walks of life and people I didn't even know. I had no negative reports. They are all tickled to death that we are coming back. A lot of people didn't care for Hobo Park because they couldn't see beyond the end of their nose for one thing. It isn't all grassed and pretty and lawns mowed and so forth, but Arms Park is a natural and we still do the kayak there, but that's a big, big event plus we're doing events above the dam too the Regatta which is getting to be a bigger event and it's going all the way up to Hooksett this year. So, very, very positive reviews. You can call me anytime if anyone has any questions.

Chairman Sysyn addressed item 3 of the agenda:

Communication from the Chief of Police requesting that the Residential Parking Permit Ordinance be amended to allow permits to be used in two-hour or greater time zones rather than using the 15-minutes, half-hour, or one-hour time zones.

Alderman Reiniger distributed a copy of an amendment to the Residential Parking Permit ordinance.

Alderman Reiniger stated this is just a minor adjustment to the Permit Parking Ordinance based on experience. Concerns by some of the small variety stores and some other businesses which had traditionally had 15-minute, 30-minute parking for high turnover, so what this amendment does is to accommodate those

businesses that need a high turnover and says basically that the Permit Parking applies to areas with time limits of one-hour or greater within the Permit Parking zones. I've spoken with the Police and the City Solicitor and I think everyone feels that this is a very good amendment.

Alderman Soucy asked when will this become effective and how will residents be notified of the change that currently have permits.

Assistant Solicitor Arnold replied ordinarily it would become effective upon passage. As for notifying residents we haven't had any discussions regarding that.

Alderman Reiniger stated I think this probably affects a total of 8 or 10 spots in the entire area.

Lt. Tessier stated that is correct and I think what we can do is work with the people until they become aware of the ordinance. We generally hear from people who get tickets.

On motion of Alderman Reiniger, duly seconded by Alderman Soucy, it was voted to recommend that the Residential Parking Permit ordinance amendment ought to pass and be referred to the Committee on Bills on Second Reading for technical review.

Chairman Sysyn addressed item 4 of the agenda:

Communication from the Chairman of the State Liquor Commission suggesting that the Bureau of Enforcement could instruct liquor license applicants for an on-sale license within the City of Manchester to proceed to the Office of the City Clerk to receive instructions on obtaining health and fire permits required under administrative rule, LIQ. 702.03.

Alderman Robert moved for discussion. Alderman Reiniger duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Robert asked could you just let us know what this is and how this differs from whatever we've been doing in the past.

Assistant Solicitor Arnold replied in the past and I'm not sure for how long they haven't been doing so, but in the past the Liquor Commission use to send the City Clerk, I don't know if it was copies or notifications of people or organizations that applied for liquor licenses here in the City; that to my understanding feel into

disuse sometime after they started doing that and there was a recent letter from the City Clerk's Office asking to start that process again and this essentially was the result. The Liquor Commission is basically saying there are certain approvals from the City are required before we will grant a license why don't you tell people when they apply for those permits that they have to see the Health and Fire Departments, I believe it was.

Alderman Robert asked what are we doing here by them suggesting that we do this. Are we resurrecting portions of the old ordinance.

Assistant Solicitor Arnold replied, no we are not. We are merely and I haven't been actively involved in this recently. But, my understanding is that we're merely trying to again get some meaningful form of notification of liquor license applications prior to the Liquor Commission acting on them.

Alderman Reiniger stated in reference to the letter from the Liquor Commission of June 11, 1997, they seem to be suggesting or seem to be throwing this back on the City in terms of Health and Fire permits are there ways that we can expand the Health permits required to encompass the bars, to give the City more of a chance to have public hearings and more input. Up to this point it seems that the sign-off becomes pretty routine and it goes up to Concord.

Assistant Solicitor Arnold stated I guess what I would say is that that is probably better discussed with the Health Department. You're right, the Health Department in terms of their regulations pretty much signs off as a matter of form once those regulations have been met. Could you expand the regulations, I guess that would depend on the type of expansion that you envision, but any expansion of Health regulations, I think, would have to apply to anybody that has a license that requires the Health Department review; that you couldn't limit those expansions to establishments that sell liquor.

Alderman Reiniger asked could we then add to the Health permit process provisions for public hearings in certain instances.

Assistant Solicitor Arnold stated I guess that would depend upon what you propose, but Health Department sign-offs in the past at least and I think to a certain extent the future is just a matter of do you meet the regulations or don't you meet the regulations. I don't think that a public hearing is helpful in that kind of analysis - do you or don't you meet regulations.

Alderman Reiniger stated it just seems that the public is looking for a process to have some input in these issues and we often will read the paper and all of a sudden another establishment has a license without anyone knowing about it, given the sign-offs and we need some type of way to hold it up.

Assistant Solicitor Arnold stated that is what generated the letter to the Liquor Commission.

Alderman Reiniger stated I know Mr. Rusczek is suggesting that the City Clerk's Office be included in the sign-off process, I don't know if that is a feasible suggestion.

Chairman Sysyn stated remember that bar that got a license near Central High School, I wasn't aware of it until after the building permit was issued and then he applied for a liquor license and by that time he had already gotten all his stuff. So, I don't know how you get around it and are we still in court with this liquor license.

Assistant Solicitor Arnold replied yes.

Chairman Sysyn asked do you think we should maybe table this item until we get something from the court or what. I really don't know how you're going to get around all of this.

Assistant Solicitor Arnold stated I guess any notification that you can develop is probably advantageous, it may not be what we would like or desire but certainly something is better than nothing.

Alderman Reiniger stated it looks like this will be on the table for further, it looks like the answer is not ready yet.

Chairman Sysyn stated I don't think there's an answer yet.

On motion of Alderman Soucy, duly seconded by Alderman Domaingue, it was voted to table item 4 pending further report from the City Clerk's Office and the Police Department.

Alderman Reiniger stated one question for Alderman Soucy. What would be the odds, our ability to amend the State statutes to give more local control, would you say this is a sacred political cow which would be tough to touch.

Alderman Soucy specifically to issuing of liquor licenses.

Alderman Reiniger stated yes and to give more power to local communities for sign-off/public hearing input.

Alderman Soucy stated I don't know that it would be any more difficult than any other piece of legislation. It's just that the time frame at this point would be that legislation would be introduced in January and probably wouldn't be enacted until maybe March or April at the earliest, so we're talking maybe nine months out. The earliest that we could do something like that, we might want to try and come up with some short-term solution in the meantime, but I think we should approach the Manchester delegation with the issue as soon as possible.

Alderman Domaingue stated usually it's effective July 1st, so you're talking a year.

Chairman Sysyn addressed item 5 of the agenda:

Communication from Attorney Robert Christy requesting a change in the parking on the southerly side of Salmon Street from Bay to Chestnut Streets to that of limited short-term parking.

Alderman Reiniger asked, Tom, have you had a chance to look at it.

Mr. Lolicata replied I just saw this the other day and had recently done North Street. I didn't know anything about Salmon Street until I saw it here. I can go up and investigate and measure and I can come back with something for both sides even and would recommend 2-hour parking like the others.

On motion of Alderman Reiniger, duly seconded by Alderman Soucy, it was voted to approve change in parking as requested to 2-hour parking.

Chairman Sysyn addressed item 6 of the agenda:

Communication from Dianne Gullo on behalf of the residents of Rosecliff/Megan's Meadow requesting that the speed limit for both developments be lowered to 20 mph.

Alderman Soucy moved that item 6 be referred to Lt. Tessier's Special Traffic Committee where I think they are entertaining a similar proposal from the neighborhood and would like a letter to go out from the City Clerk's Office explaining that that is where the communications being forwarded and that it has been this Committee's experience that speeding usually occurs by the residents within the neighborhood, so they might want to try and address it at one of their neighborhood meetings in the meantime. Alderman Domaingue duly seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Chairman Sysyn addressed item 7 of the agenda:

Communication from Brooks McQuade requesting to increase the parking spaces used by Downtown businesses in the Middle Street Parking Lot from 17 to 34 spaces.

(Note: Communications from McQuade's Associates and The Insurance Exchange in support of this request is enclosed.)

Chairman Sysyn asked how much are they paying for 17 spaces.

Mr. Lolicata replied so far they are paying for 17 spaces at \$2.00 a space and it all started with the Christmas season and it's been extended and extended. Going back to last March and April at these meetings, somebody was suppose to come about with either more extensions, raising the price or doing something about this. This is a City parking lot and you have Downtown Revitalization coming, new meters coming on Elm Street and I'd hate to see this lot go over to some other people, it's cheap enough now as it is and I can't see doing that unless you're going to take this whole lot, you're going to have parking for Downtown people anyway. I'm trying to understand the situation here. You're talking \$34.00 a month, that's cheap.

Chairman Sysyn stated it costs me \$2.50 to park all day in the garage.

Mr. Lolicata stated I also must say that I have been hearing and this is supposed to be pretty basic stuff that people are abusing those spots and parking all day again. Now, whether they're employees of...I'm not going to use McQuade's or any of the stores down there, but people are parking there, going in and it isn't a 15-minutes, one-hour, two-hour deal either. So, something is amiss. There is a gentleman down there who tags the cars, looks for validation, but somebody's been telling me that they have been watching down there and it's being abused. So, it's up to this Committee to either extend it, do something about this or let it

go as is for now. I don't know what to tell you. The new meters are coming in on Elm Street too.

Alderman Robert asked, Tom, what would you recommend. This seems to be a point of contention. Would you have a recommendation for us.

Mr. Lolicata replied my recommendation now goes back to after Christmas that it should have gone back to the City and put the meters back in. The whole area now is 2-hour parking which is for Downtown shoppers, the 10-hours are out of there now, there's plenty of parking down there and you're going to have new meters put in on Elm Street. I personally can't see this lot going, it's for the Downtown shoppers and it should be utilized that way like meters anywhere else. To me it's paying for employee's parking and I'm hearing some chirping lately, it's just allegations, but they're pretty strong. So, I don't know which way to go except to put it back to where it belongs. If you want to wait until Downtown is finished and allow them to keep those 17 spaces for now, that would be the safest way to go. But, you're going to be having about 160 parking meters going Downtown when it's completed.

Alderman Reiniger stated certainly to the extent that people are abusing it that should be enforced and looked into, but I think the program overall has been a great program and it gets back to the whole issue of is parking supposed to be a revenue source or are these things supposed to be meant for turnover, but this has been a great PR move for the Downtown because it enables McQuade's to say there is free parking for people shopping in the stores and the other participants in this program. So, it's been great PR for the Downtown and I think we should continue the program. Now, whether it should be doubled or not that is another issue.

Mr. Lolicata stated if the abuse is there, it's the man watching there and this has nothing to do with the Police or the public now. But, people have been noticing certain cars staying there all day and it's up to whoever is present and is taking care of it.

Alderman Domaingue asked the 17 spots in question, aren't they assigned just to McQuade's and not all of the Downtown businesses or are they open to all of Downtown businesses.

Mr. Lolicata replied I believe it's all...the Taylor's, all of them. Supposedly for all.

Alderman Domaingue stated I guess that is the root of my question because initially when we approved it, I understood it was just for McQuade's and so while I appreciate the point that Alderman Reiniger is making and I happen to agree with it, we need to make sure we make available parking for shopping Downtown, I do not want to do special interest parking for shoppers Downtown and quite frankly, I have been very troubled from the feedback that I've gotten as a southend Alderman who has the Mall where you don't pay to park from businesses north of the center of the City on Elm Street who are beginning to very much complain about the parking meters and the fact that they are having trouble competing with businesses that don't have parking meters to contend with and I think if we are serious as a City about bringing business into Downtown and making it convenient and available for shoppers or people doing business Downtown, we need to look at this issue as closely as we can in terms of what do we charge people to park Downtown. In the lots certainly, in the garages certainly, but up-and-down Elm Street I'm not sure we've given it enough study to be very honest with you.

Chairman Sysyn asked could there be a way that we could do something for those parking lots. I know what you're saying because I buy the stamps now and I'll give somebody an hours free parking or two hours parking with the stamps that I buy from the parking garages, but those parking lots I don't know how you could get around those where they could buy stickers and how could you do that.

Alderman Domaingue stated perhaps we need to bring Rich Davis back in because there is some legitimacy to the point made to me by businesses, particularly Lemay's Jewelers, for example. Who says to me okay, Alderman, we understand the concept and that's fine for inner-city businesses right in the center of the Elm Street area, but we have businesses too down on either end of Elm, do you really expect people to park in the garages or in Hartnett Lot and then walk several blocks up to my business, they're not going to do that. It's a legitimate concern of a business person on Elm Street and I'm not sure we've given it the attention it deserves.

Alderman Soucy asked what is the current rate that people are paying now who use the stamps.

Chairman Sysyn replied instead of paying the \$25.00 for 50 stickers or whatever, I'm paying \$12.50. It's costing me a quarter an hour for people to park in there.

Alderman Soucy stated so you're paying a quarter an hour as a business person in Downtown, but these people are paying \$2.00 a month.

Alderman Domaingue stated that is not right.

Alderman Soucy stated I like the concept, but the rate in my opinion is not fair, is not comparable. We're not treating similar businesses similarly.

Mr. Lolicata stated it started that way as a gesture which was good at Christmas and it was never taken care of afterwards. Now whether you want this to continue or charge the regular rates or leave it as is...

Alderman Reiniger stated I think we can at least take Tom's suggestion and leave the existing program through the construction period which is due to begin shortly and see where we stand. To the extent that they would like to double the number maybe we could table this item and have McQuade's come in and meet with the Committee and explain why they need more spaces because the letter doesn't quite explain that. I don't know if there are more participating merchants in the program. It's not just McQuade's.

Alderman Soucy stated if there are more participants than just McQuade's then several businesses are paying, all together, \$2.00 for a space for a month.

Alderman Domaingue interjected that is the issue.

Alderman Soucy stated a woman who has a cart in the mall is paying \$12.50, that doesn't make sense.

Alderman Domaingue stated it's a fairness issue.

Chairman Sysyn stated I'm not complaining, I'm happy to do it.

Alderman Soucy stated it's a good comparison, it's just not fair.

Chairman Sysyn asked do you want to let it go until Elm Street is done and all of the parking meters are in which give shim more parking in the front and then...

Alderman Soucy stated I don't want to these those rates the way they are, I'm sorry. Maybe, you can leave the spaces but if he or several businesses are paying for them they should at least pay what another business pays for them.

Alderman Domaingue stated perhaps the Committee needs more information regarding just how many businesses are part of this offer.

Chairman Sysyn asked do you want to have Mr. McQuade come in to explain it at the next Traffic meeting.

On motion of Alderman Reiniger, duly seconded by Alderman Soucy, it was voted to table the communication from Mr. McQuade and to invite him to attend the next meeting of the Committee.

Chairman Sysyn addressed item 8 of the agenda:

Communication from Terry Penny advising the Board of her having received a parking ticket recently.

On motion of Alderman Robert, duly seconded by Alderman Reiniger, it was voted to receive and file the communication from Terry Penny.

Chairman Sysyn addressed item 9 of the agenda:

Communication from the Deputy City Clerk regarding proposed change to parking meter regulations.

On motion of Alderman Reiniger, duly seconded by Alderman Soucy, it was voted to approve the proposed change to the parking meter regulations.

Chairman Sysyn advises that the Traffic Department had submitted an agenda which needed to be addressed as follows:

Parking 2 Hours (8:00 AM - Noon Mon-Sat):

On Merrimack Street, north side, from Beech Street to a point 50 feet east of Union Street

Alderman Sysyn

Parking 2 Hours (8:00 AM - 6:00 PM):

On North Street, north and south side, from Pine Street to Chestnut Street
Alderman Reiniger

On Salmon Street, south side, from Bay Street to Chestnut Street
Alderman Reiniger

Rescind Parking 1 Hour (8:00 AM - 6:00 PM):

On Ash Street, east side, from Lowell Street to Bridge Street (unlimited)

Alderman Sysyn

No Parking:

On Chestnut Street, west side, from a point 200 feet south of Merrimack Street to a point 50 feet southerly

Alderman Reiniger

On Grant Street, east side, from Hanover Street to a point 90 feet northerly

Alderman Sysyn

On Mammoth Road, east side, from a point 1840 feet south of Bridge Street to a point 60 feet southerly

Alderman Sysyn

No Parking During School Hours:

On Lois Street, east side, from a point 370 feet south of Roysan Street to a point 85 feet southerly

Alderman Domaingue

No Parking Loading Zone (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM Mon-Fri):

On Chestnut Street, west side, from a point 250 feet south of Merrimack Street to a point 55 feet southerly

Alderman Reiniger

On Mammoth Road, east side, from a point 1800 feet south of Bridge Street to a point 40 feet southerly

Alderman Sysyn

Handicap Parking Only:

On Chestnut Street, west side, from a point 150 feet south of Merrimack Street to a point 50 feet southerly

Alderman Reiniger

Rescind Parking 2 Hours (8:00 AM - 6:00 PM) Meters:

On Chestnut Street, west side, from a point 150 feet south of Merrimack Street to a point 50 feet southerly (meter #'s 1051 and 1052)

Alderman Reiniger

Rescind No Parking - Handicap Only:

On Chestnut Street, west side, from a point 200 feet south of Merrimack Street to a point 52 feet southerly

Alderman Reiniger

Rescind Parking 2 Hours (8:00 AM - 6:00 PM) unlimited:

On Taylor Street, west side, from Harvard Street to a point 65 feet southerly

Alderman Shea

On motion of Alderman Reiniger, duly seconded by Alderman Soucy, it was voted to approve the Traffic Department agenda as submitted.

DISCUSSION ITEM:

Traffic painting for 1998 --

Mr. Lolicata stated this is something I have been trying to bring to your attention over the past year or so and the time has come and I've been putting it off for a little while and it was brought up to my attention to bring a few things up to you people. As you know the mandates for waterborne paints is here and I'd just like to let everybody realize right now, in advance, that next year I don't know if I'm going to complete the City. I'm having a hard enough time right now and this waterborne paint is going to be a most difficult thing for all of us. This type of paint has to have ideal condition as far as putting it down. If some Alderman like Tom Robert says Tom, can you go up and paint such and such and get it done, Alderman Robert might be in for a surprise. I might not get to it until the following week. I can't do what I can do today. Today I have an oil-based paint and I can go out into weather of about 50 degrees and I can probably perform a job for you. Next year, that luxury will not be here and the reason I am bringing this up to your attention is that also it's going to affect me, the City and I'll be looking for overtime because this work is going to have to be done at a time whereby during the daytime if I haven't got the right conditions and I've got to get it done, I may have to go into some other type of overtime work - a Saturday, Sunday or otherwise. I've been cut down, let's see now for five or six years. We used to go out once-a-week and now I'm down to maybe three, maybe four or five nights work for the whole City and everything else is done during the daytime. I don't know if you can comprehend what that means, it's dangerous, it's less work being done and pretty soon I'm going to run out of...I'm running out of men right now and I'm running out of time. This City is growing, just the South Willow Street deal alone...if you take a look at that what I have to maintain three years

from now when that stuff wears off you're talking a full night's work just trying to do the South Willow Street. There's a lot of paint out there, I've got over a million feet to do every year. I'm going to be asking next year for your patience to explain to you this waterborne paint is not what you think it is, the State's gone through it. At least, those people have 12/14 hour days and 6 days-a-week to do their work and straight painting. I haven't got that luxury. I want you to realize that I'll be asking sometime next year, somehow, some way for probably more men and more money or else this is not going to be done. I'm at the point right now where I'm saturated. This paint here I'm going to give you a small copy which goes back to 1993 from LDI which explains three or four different types. The paint that I am going to be using waterborne is the best, the cheapest, and the only way that the people in the northern states will be using anyway and that's why we're doing it. This gives you a small idea, but I guess what I am trying to say is that the point right now is I cannot complete all of the work that's given to me. Even right now with the paint I'm using and the men I have and the work I'm getting, I am completely saturated, I really am. I'm looking for bad days just to get the signs done. We're growing, we've doubled over the last five years, a third more at least and I've got so much work I'll tell you right now that we're in a frenzy. I'm at the point of saying to you people that I need help. I'm looking forward to next year to getting some type of overtime, some type of money if I need it if you want something done. This paint lasts a little bit longer, but the application itself is a time consuming thing and it has to be what I call under ideal conditions. I just wanted to make you aware of this. I don't know about other departments, but I finally have got to spiel off a little bit. I haven't got the time and I haven't got the men and pretty soon I'm going to be crying pretty soon for some help.

Alderman Robert stated, Tom, you're trying to wrestle with this, you're trying to make the waterborne paint work, have you got an idea precisely of what you'd like to see, what situation you'd like to have so you can get this stuff done.

Mr. Lolicata replied I'll make it work, Alderman, by getting the stainless steel and what's necessary. The hard thing is the application - Mother Nature could beat me, Mother Nature could beat you.

Alderman Robert stated taking all of that into consideration because you're the guy that's got to deal with this, do you have an idea, do you have a concept of what you want, what you might think that you need to get the job done.

Mr. Lolicata replied possibly men and overtime.

Alderman Robert stated may I just suggest for myself and maybe for the Committee that you take your concept and put it down on paper and submit it to the Committee or submit it to the Board, whatever the proper thing is to do so, number one, we're informed of your situation and number two, what it might take to solve the situation so that we can decide what we want to do and how we go about it. I need to know. I hear you're in a tough situation. Tell me what you need to do to get it done and we can go from there. If we don't do it, then it's my fault.

Mr. Lolicata stated the two new men that I am applying for now one is a replacement through death and the other one is a replacement for someone we lost about three years ago and it brings me back to where I was. I've got two men covering the whole City for lights and I'm finally getting a third man and that is where it was years ago.

Alderman Robert asked are you saying that you need two more positions.

Mr. Lolicata replied I am going to need at least two more men above what I am getting now for at least next year coming. It takes a year to a year-and-a-half to train these men for these things. It's not just painting, it's signing, welding, it's meters, it's a lot of things. All I'm saying is the workload is at the point now of saturation. We're a small department, we're doing a lot, but now I have to fight Mother Nature as well next year with a new concept and I don't think that you are going to get everything that you need next year. I hope to finish the City, but I doubt it. There's a lot of work out there and I'm thinking of liability really.

Alderman Robert stated I realize that, but are you saying if you had just two extra people that is all you would need.

Mr. Lolicata replied above what I'm getting this year. Next year, I am going to be crying for help. When this paint comes in, I'll be starting April of '98 and I am going to need two more men, at least, just to keep our head above water. I guess I'm trying to give you people an advance warning. It's been coming for about a year, you've heard me talk about it back and forth, but now I am going to face it and say to you this is where I stand. I'm finally going to get the truck that I need as far as having it fixed over...stainless steel it has got to be and when this paint comes in it's a matter of timing, it's a matter of Mother Nature, and it's a matter of getting the stuff down. I'm going to need overtime. This is what I expect, so you might as well expect the same thing. I dread it.

Alderman Domaingue asked, Tom, how has your department changed from say five years ago, your complement. I know you've been through a very rough year this year, but five years ago when we had that many less streets and businesses how many less men did you have or is it just that we've expanded so much you're having a hard time keeping up with the volume based on maintaining a steady complement of people, have you actually decreased your staff or is it that we've expanded the area.

Mr. Lolicata replied it's a matter of both things. The complement has decreased and the work has increased. The expansion has been something unbelievable.

Alderman Domaingue stated I'm a little bit confused because a year ago we talked about the budget and we talked then about the stainless steel machine that was necessary to spread the new paint and I honestly anticipated that we'd see some of these positions or some increase in overtime based on what you told us last year in this year's budget and I didn't see it. So, I made the assumption as I'm sure everybody else did that you had adequately covered it. So, what I'm hearing now seems to be a repeat.

Mr. Lolicata replied it is not a repeat. What I am getting back now is the people that I had before, first of all.

Alderman Domaingue stated even with the people you had before, you were warning us a year ago we needed additional people because of the paint situation, the change in the paint and the federal laws.

Mr. Lolicata stated more or less the overtime first. Now, with the additional people also...

Alderman Domaingue asked did you plug that into this '98 budget.

Mr. Lolicata replied no. I did not plug the help and I did not plug the overtime. As a matter of fact, I had to take a little bit away. I didn't because I knew I wasn't going to finish it and I expected this and when you're told to come in with a certain budget and you lose another one percent at the last minute on top of that another \$29,000 and you start realizing I'm not the Highway Department, I'm a small department and I'm at the point where I've got to think about other stuff - painting, screening, signs. Rolled goods is very expensive and lights are very expensive. The only thing in our favor, thank heavens, we're going to save money on the lights because of the wattage so that I can get this man back. But, I've got to do some serious thinking for the following budget. I need help. I just want you people aware of what is going to be happening. There is not going to be the

luxury that you people had before and saying Tom do this tomorrow and Tom do this, it's not going to happen. This application is really a brand new ballgame, it's quite different.

Chairman Sysyn stated I think he's just trying to forewarn us of what he will need next year.

Alderman Robert asked could we forward this to the Mayor's Office for some sort of response regarding Tom's concerns with this matter.

TABLED ITEMS

Communication from Alderman Reiniger submitting proposed revisions to existing City ordinances.

(Tabled 2/26/96)

This item remained on the table.

Discussion with the Director of Planning relative to the traffic calming report.

(Tabled 12/17/97)

This item remained on the table.

OTHER BUSINESS

Alderman Domaingue asked, Madame Chair, did you receive a multi-page petition from the residents of South Mammoth Road requesting...I know the Police Department may have, I did, requesting that signage along South Mammoth Road speed signs be reduced from 40 to 30 and that additional signs be placed between Bodwell Road and the Londonderry Town line. Apparently, we have a shortage of signs in that area so when people see the 40 mph sign as they hit that long stretch of South Mammoth they just go and they go far in excess of 40 mph and I've received several complaints along with this petition.

Chairman Sysyn asked is that what the petition is, is to reduce it to 30 mph.

Alderman Domaingue stated I thought it was going to be forwarded to this Committee, but I guess it was not.

Chairman Sysyn asked has anyone else seen it, I guess not.

Alderman Domaingue asked is there any way that we can have the Police Department address the issue as to whether they've received it and in fact if they are doing anything with that.

Lt. Tessier stated we have been down there on a regular basis three or four days a week for about the last three weeks and we did get a copy of it or at least I'm aware of it, I don't remember reading it specifically and we have done some directed patrol in that area and it has been productive.

Alderman Domaingue asked with respect to the signage can Mr. Lolicata comment on whether they can reduce the speed from 40 to 30.

Mr. Lolicata replied I believe that down below Bodwell Road becomes State. I know it's in the City limits, but it's considered State. It's just like the Brown Avenue deal. We're going to have to possibly ask for the State to turn over to us to upkeep the lines, give us an extension so we can keep it at 30 and if they refuse, it's their highway which is why they have the speed 40, the marker is right near Bodwell, I believe.

Alderman Domaingue asked if it were to be changed would they be the ones to do the signage, as well.

Mr. Lolicata replied yes, unless it were given to the City and they would have to go through the process of lowering the speed themselves or giving the City permission to do it. I would have to find out.

Alderman Domaingue asked could you do that.

Mr. Lolicata replied yes, he would.

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

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee