

COMMITTEE ON TRAFFIC/PUBLIC SAFETY

September 5, 2000

6:00 PM

Chairman Clancy called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Clancy, Vaillancourt, Pariseau, Hirschmann

Absent: Alderman Sysyn

Messrs: T. Lolicata, Sgt. Winn

Chairman Clancy addressed a few items on the Traffic Agenda:

RESCIND ONE WAY

Hampshire Lane, from Market St. to Mechanic St., northbound
Alderman Levasseur

NO THROUGH TRAFFIC (CUSTOMER PARKING ONLY)

Hampshire Lane at Market St. to Mechanic St.
Alderman Levasseur

STREET CLOSED (AUTHORIZED VEHICLES ONLY)

Hampshire Lane at Mechanic St. to Market St.
Alderman Levasseur

Alderman Pariseau stated this issue is on the BMA agenda for this evening so I move to table this item.

Alderman Hirschmann asked why are we tabling this.

Alderman Pariseau answered there is a letter on the Board of Mayor and Aldermen agenda that addresses this.

Alderman Hirschmann duly seconded the motion. Chairman Clancy called for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman Clancy addressed Item 3 of the agenda:

Communication from Alderman Vaillancourt submitting a communication on behalf of a constituent regarding the speed at which traffic travels down Old Brown Avenue.

On motion of Alderman Vaillancourt, duly seconded by Alderman Hirschmann, it was voted to receive and file this item.

Chairman Clancy addressed Item 4 of the agenda:

Communication from Intown Manchester regarding recent reports of vehicles with "handicapped" hanging placards or plates parking all day during normal business hours at two-hour metered locations and requesting the City address this issue.

Alderman Pariseau asked what is the State policy relative to handicapped spaces.

Sgt. Winn stated the State policy calls for the Governors Commission on Disabilities to allow the cities and towns to set limits on that. In fact, I was at a meeting on Friday about this and I was told at the meeting that we, as a City, can put time limits on the handicapped parking. What they suggested was that at a meter where there is a two-hour time limit that we allow people with handicapped plates three hours. The reason being that because of the special needs of somebody's handicap that we would certainly want to give them some extra time. On the other hand, they didn't want to go eight hours because that would cause a problem for turnover in the downtown area. The recommendation from that committee was three hours.

Alderman Pariseau moved to give people with handicapped plates three hours at the two-hour meters.

Alderman Hirschmann asked these are handicapped people parking in a metered space. Aren't there a percentage of handicapped spaces already for them to park in?

Mr. Lolicata stated we have that on the traffic agenda for discussion. We also have the City Solicitor here tonight to address this. You can either continue the discussion now or take it up later.

Chairman Clancy replied why don't we take it up now.

Mr. Lolicata stated basically we were looking for ways to find out how to limit the handicapped. I guess they have been abusing it. We have had a lot of input on this. Even in their own handicapped areas you can limit the time by City ordinance. Sgt. Winn did some research this past year with Concord and the ADA. I believe Tom Clark might have some information on this too. Basically there are two things. The handicapped situation regarding the handicapped spots and mostly the metered spots where State laws says they can park free any place we charge money. I guess maybe a garage also, but we have spots in the garage. Right now I am trying to get some clarity on which is which for the time limit and also for the handicapped zones so we can limit those.

Deputy Solicitor Arnold stated I think that the Board in its discretion can limit the time on the garages or on the street. That is due to a fairly recent change in the law. As I said, the Board can set limits for handicapped parking spots.

Mr. Lolicata asked so if I want to limit it to four hours in the garage and they should be limited to whatever the meter says like two hours...should they be paying also at these meters is another question.

Deputy Solicitor Arnold answered the parking is free. If you are handicapped you don't have to pay for parking but the City is free to limit the time that you can use that parking.

Alderman Pariseau stated I think two hours is enough.

Mr. Lolicata stated so I guess there is going to be some wording from you people to help out in regards to the two hours and getting the word out. How can we do the handicapped parking? Is that 24 hours still or can that be limited also to two hours or whatever? The handicapped spot itself?

Deputy Solicitor Arnold answered that can also be limited.

Mr. Lolicata stated I guess what it comes down to for this Committee then is to vote on or set-up a discussion to allow so many hours in a garage or at a meter.

Alderman Hirschmann asked how would you get the word out or how would you enforce that. If somebody pulls up to a meter and a cruiser drives by two hours later and he is in violation how do you tell that person? Do you put up stickers or signs or something?

Mr. Lolicata answered I would say through an ordinance first of all as far as a handicapped plate or whatever to abide by the two-hour meter. Media and news to explain to the handicapped plate holders that they are going to be held responsible at two hours at a meter. Handicapped spots I imagine would be something that this Committee will have to set forth.

Chairman Clancy stated we have been getting a lot of calls that the handicapped people are parking downtown all day long with their placards. This is the reason that this was brought up. The thing is right now we should put a time limit on how long they can park either in a garage or on the street.

Mr. Lolicata stated I agree. I would leave it up to you gentlemen.

Alderman Pariseau stated I would limit the parking we currently have to two hours. That should be sufficient time for any handicapped person to go wherever they have to go and do their business and go home. Not to use the two hours to park, go to work, come downstairs and move their car two feet or whatever in the next handicapped spot.

Mr. Lolicata stated I also heard mention tonight about Concord and how they said three hours. I don't know if you want to look at some other laws. Sgt. Winn mentioned that they allow three hours.

Alderman Pariseau replied I was going along with Sgt. Winn's proposal of the three hours but really there is no need for the three hours. It ought to be the time limit on the meters, whether it is one hour, two hours or whatever.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated I would like to get some kind of idea of the extent of this problem. Mr. Davis in his letter in paragraph one refers to people who appeared not to be mobility impaired in any noticeable way and then he refers to people abusing this and they have been identified. How many people are we talking about and what kind of proof do we have?

Sgt. Winn responded I don't know what the actual statistics are. When you say you see somebody and they seem to be abusing the system, that is a tough thing to broach because you are talking about a medical condition. If somebody can't walk 200 feet without taking a break or needing assistance, they qualify for a placard. There are all kinds of reasons why people qualify. To say whether they are abusing it or not, I think it is hard to tell just by looking at somebody. Somebody could look fine but the reality of it is maybe they have a back problem and they are having a good day.

Alderman Vaillancourt replied the next paragraph seems to assert that you have determined that there is abuse. It says several offenders have been identified and some of these offenders have been cited and some of those cited have since repeated their offenses. So, apparently we have identified certain individuals. I am just wondering how many.

Sgt. Winn responded there are different kinds of abuse. I think the abuse that we are talking about in that letter would be the person that has a placard, for example somebody had one that comes to mind where it was issued to their spouse and when their spouse wasn't using it, the person who had no disability was in fact using the placard. We have been able to identify some of those people and take enforcement on that...I am talking about just a few people. Less than 12 that we have identified.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated I guess my question comes up on the handicapped spots because you have some that are handicapped parking and I know there is one for instance on the agenda tonight going on Bremer Street I think it was. If you are limiting it to two hours, you are not stating downtown as of yet so I think you need to really think about what you are stating here. I think we need to get a listing of where the handicapped spots are in the City. I don't think you want to do it Citywide until you look at what you have on the books. If you want to do it in a specific area, if you know it is your two-hour meters downtown, those aren't advertised as handicapped spots so I think you do have to do some public education and say if the handicapped are parked at a two-hour meter it will be enforced as a two-hour meter regardless of whether or not it is a handicapped person parked at the two-hour meter zone. If you have handicapped parking near a one-hour zone such as you do on City Hall property, then you are going to need to change that sign to say handicapped parking for one hour only. If that is what you want to do – put it within the time zone of wherever it is. I really think you need to think about this a little more and not just react to the situation and then find yourself in a worse situation because you really didn't educate it or look at it properly. I think the first step would be to get all of the handicapped zones off the system and figure out where they are.

Mr. Lolicata stated I think this is based upon the complaints...it had to do with limited time in handicapped spots downtown.

Deputy Clerk Johnson replied but you have various types of handicapped downtown and the ones that are being complained about are people parking at meters. It is not people parking in a handicapped zone.

Mr. Lolicata responded the other handicapped spots that you are speaking of like the one coming in tonight, they don't get it unless they have the curb cut and the ramp and the disability to go with it. There are about three or four in this City.

Deputy Clerk Johnson replied I understand that but what I am saying is that what they are acting on here tonight does not come out that clean in what is being stated as part of the record. I think it needs to be put in writing first and looked at and that is my only concern.

Alderman Pariseau moved to refer this back to the Traffic Department, City Solicitor and City Clerk's Office to review and come back with a recommendation. Alderman Vaillancourt duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated that was the thrust of my questioning and you said less than 12. I think we have to be aware of the fact that we shouldn't allow people to break laws, but you are talking about a situation that is very touchy with people who have handicaps and disabilities and I don't think we should overreact because of one letter. I certainly think this is the right direction. We don't want to be draconian if there are only a handful of violators and you already have the means to deal with them.

Deputy Clerk Johnson stated before you take a vote on the motion somebody out there was asking if Access Manchester could participate in that discussion as well.

Chairman Clancy replied yes.

Mr. Kearney stated I think the Committee or somebody should get information from Motor Vehicles on the placards. We should have some idea of how many are used. People are definitely abusing the system. Maybe Motor Vehicles could let people know how to use the placards.

Chairman Clancy replied to my knowledge we are the only City that has unlimited parking. Other cities have time limits.

Chairman Clancy called for a vote on the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman Clancy addressed Item 5 of the agenda:

Petition for reducing speed limit to 15 miles per hour on Kimball Street, in the vicinity of Kelley Falls Housing Development.

Alderman Hirschmann stated in the audience tonight is Stacy May Jarowski. She is one of the residents who brought this concern forward. She wanted to say a couple of words about this.

Ms. Jarowski stated I live at 370 Kimball Street. I, myself, have three children. My apartment is right at the park. Whether it is day or night it doesn't matter. The cars go speeding through there going 70 MPH, 80 MPH or 90 MPH. You can hear them all night long. We appreciate anything we can get. We have gotten so far two signs – Slow Children and I forget what the other one states. There are two at the beginning and two at the end. Dropping the speed limit to 15 MPH is great but I think what our biggest problem is is we really think...I run a group called the Kelley Falls Community Group and week after week the biggest complaint is if we had either speed dips or speed bumps on that street it would probably slow a lot of people down. We have an officer...it is not his main area, Officer Paul Fleming who has attended a few of our meetings. He sees this and he sees how these cars go down there. You know you hear it. It is a horrible thing to say but even our public transportation flies through there. We have had our meetings with the officer there and they go right by where we are and they are not even going 15 MPH. It is just a real concern because right where I am is a crosswalk. There have to be over 30 to 40 children in that area alone and these cars don't slow down. They don't even stop at the crosswalk to see if a little kid is going to come out.

Alderman Pariseau asked is that mostly residents who are speeding on Kimball Street.

Ms. Jarowski answered I can't say for sure. There are some that are residents, but there are a lot that don't even belong there. There are people who don't live there that park their cars right on that street and you see them walking down elsewhere and they don't come back until the next day for them. The parking and traffic problem is just really bad there also.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated this leads into something that I wanted to discuss tonight. I have written a letter this morning that Carol is in the process of copying regarding another problem on Brent Street. Sgt. Winn, Mr. Lolicata and I have all been out there and we have a speeding problem throughout the City. We can't have speed bumps everywhere we have a speeding problem. We can't lower the speed limit to 15 MPH everywhere. I talked to Mr. Lolicata last week and I was informed that you can't lower the speed limit below 30 except in a school zone or where the road is very narrow. I don't think we can do this can we?

Mr. Lolicata replied by law you really can't do this. If you start this precedent, you are going to have to follow-through in every other neighborhood. From what I heard from the State if you start setting speed limits in different areas they have to be maintained, the signage has to go up and you will have a city of 15, 10, 25 and 30 MPH and it is not according to State law. That is irresponsible. That is why they set limits in different cities. If the City wants to drop the City to 25 MPH like the old days, that is a different story but you have certain laws to abide by. Everybody has a 30 MPH and the police enforce accordingly. Now there is a certain law where streets are too narrow and one of them is coming in tonight because the street is narrow, below 20 feet and Highway, Fire and Police have looked at it and it is also in a school zone, which rides along with the State law. If you start putting up 15 MPH in one area and the other area wants it and the other area wants it, you are going to have great inconsistency and I think the judges themselves are going to say something to you as far as issuing a summons and going by the law.

Alderman Hirschmann stated, Tom, I know what your concerns are for the City but this truly is a closed community. This is a cluster community that was built in the 1950's. If you drive through there and you are doing more than 15 MPH there are children sitting on the curb because on that street the buildings face each other and that street is the playground. Yes they did build a playground and the Housing Authority does control that development. Like I said, it is a community. It is not really a City street that somebody who doesn't have any business going there would just drive down that street at 30 MPH because you would probably kill somebody. I have been down that street many, many times and that is like...Elmwood Gardens is the same type of community and over at Elmwood Gardens they have taken guardrails and put them across and closed roads over there have they not? I remember a street over there that is closed. For what? Public safety. These people are appealing to me because I am the Alderman of that community. They asked me for speed bumps and I already knew the answer that the Highway Department doesn't want to plow over speed bumps but this is an appeal for public safety for all of those children. Can we lower the speed limit? 25 MPH is still way too fast. A Housing Authority property has to be considered a closed community. It really is. If you go through there you have to agree with me.

Mr. Lolicata stated that would be one section and I could give you a few others also in the City. I am not saying you are wrong. I would have to venture that...I am not a lawyer so I would have to get input from the City Solicitor and the State as to how to go about doing this and it is quite a thing. In all honesty, before we start doing this I think we should look at this very carefully before we start setting a precedent here tonight. It is one thing to say you should do this for this

particular area and it is another thing...there are other areas just like it and once you start doing this I want the law on my side. I am not the lawyer. I am not the one who makes the laws. You have State statutes to go by now and I would at least table this tonight to find out what the City can and cannot do. These are coming up, it seems, every other week and there are an awful lot of questions that I don't have answers for.

Alderman Hirschmann stated I will allow this to be tabled but I want to ask a question of the Traffic Director. Tom, you saw this on the agenda. Did you go through that community and look at what they are talking about? There is a petition signed by building after building of people. This is one of the biggest petitions that I have gotten since I have been an Alderman.

Mr. Lolicata replied I received the agenda Friday afternoon. This is the first time I have seen the petition. I never knew about it. I do know of the section they are talking about. I have been around 38 years. I know exactly what is going on over there.

Alderman Hirschmann asked if we table this you will go to that site and study it and give us a recommendation.

Mr. Lolicata answered I will go over there, I will help out but before we go to another law I would like to look into what we can do in the City because that is quite a thing to set a speed limit.

On motion of Alderman Hirschmann, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to table this item.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated I guarantee you that if we start doing this you are going to have three times as many petition signatures from the people on Brent Street and I can name a dozen in Ward 8 in particular. This is a terrible problem, speeding, that we have to address but the young lady that spoke before us mentioned 70 MPH. They are breaking the law now. We have enough laws on the books to nail them now and I suggest that is the area in which we should go. This is just a terrible can of worms. For example, some people want me to start putting stop signs in the middle of streets and I said we can't do that and they said you did it on President Road.

Alderman Pariseau stated it is working.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated I was walking on President Road last week and people are going through that stop sign on a regular basis.

Chairman Clancy asked Sgt. Winn to check the speed on Kimball Street.

Chairman Clancy addressed Item 6 of the agenda:

Communication from St. George Greek Orthodox Cathedral requesting the closure of Kenney Street at Hanover Street and Hilton Street at Amherst Street from 10:00 AM until 11:00 PM on September 15, 16, & 17, 2000 in conjunction with the annual Glendi celebration.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Hirschmann, it was voted to approve this request under the supervision of the Traffic, Highway, Police, Fire and City Clerk's Office.

Chairman Clancy addressed Item 7 of the agenda:

Communication from Marie Wellington requesting the installation of a traffic signal at the intersection of Mammoth and Corning Roads.

Alderman Pariseau moved to refer this to the CIP Committee to see if there is funding available.

Mr. Lolicata stated this lady called me a couple of months ago. I went down there and got information. It does not warrant signals whatsoever. There are no warrants at all in that area right now.

Alderman Pariseau moved to receive and file this item. Alderman Hirschmann duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Vaillancourt asked there are no warrants – could you explain that.

Mr. Lolicata answered there are no warrants for that. Believe it or not they don't have the eight or twelve-hour volume and the accident ratio is very low. We will do something for sight distance down there now that they are working in that area. There is one area for sight distance and that is causing the problems.

Chairman Clancy called for a vote on the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

Chairman Clancy advises that the Traffic Department has submitted an agenda, which needs to be addressed as follows:

NO PARKING

On Silver St., north side, from a point 200 feet west of Maple St. to a point 135 feet westerly
Alderman Shea

On Titus Ave., north side, from a point 420 feet west of Cameron St. to a point 65 feet westerly

On Titus Ave., north side, from a point 300 feet west of Cameron St. to a point 75 feet westerly
Alderman Pariseau

On Riverfront Dr, east side, from Amoskeag St. to a point 1190 feet northerly
Alderman Hirschmann

On Hilton St., west side, from Amherst St. to the dead end
Alderman Sysyn

On Bremer St., north side, from Coolidge Ave. to a point 60 feet westerly
Alderman Thibault

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Hirschmann, it was voted to approve these items.

NO PARKING 8AM-6PM MON-SAT

On Taylor St., east side, from Somerville St. to a point 230 feet northerly
Alderman Shea

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to approve this item.

HANDICAP PARKING ONLY

On Bremer St., north side, from a point 60 feet west of Coolidge Ave. to a point 30 feet westerly
Alderman Thibault

On motion of Alderman Hirschmann, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to approve this item.

NO PARKING BUS STOP (DURING SCHOOL HOURS)

On Blucher St., east side, from Sullivan St., to a point 350 feet southerly
emergency act
Alderman Thibault

On motion of Alderman Hirschmann, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to approve this item.

SPEED 20

On Huntress Ave., from Prince St. to Milford St. (school zone)
Alderman Cashin

On motion of Alderman Vaillancourt, duly seconded by Alderman Hirschmann, it was voted to approve this item.

NO PARKING HANDICAP ONLY

On Titus Ave., north side, from a point 375 feet west of Cameron St. to a point 45 feet westerly
Alderman Pariseau

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Hirschmann, it was voted to approve this request.

PARKING ½ HOUR – 8AM-6PM

On Massabesic St., north side, from Cypress St. to a point 155 feet westerly
Alderman Clancy

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to approve this request.

PARKING 1 HOUR – 8AM-6PM

On Silver St., north side, from Maple St. to a point 200 feet westerly
On Silver St., north side, from a point 335 feet west of Maple St. to Beech St.
Alderman Shea

On motion of Alderman Hirschmann, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to approve this item.

PARKING 2 HOURS – 8AM-6PM

On Joliette St., west side, from a point 110 feet south of Bremer St. to a point 75 feet southerly
Alderman Hirschmann

On motion of Alderman Hirschmann, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to approve this request.

NO PARKING LOADING ZONE

On Hall St., west side, from Spruce St. to a point 65 feet southerly
Alderman Clancy

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to approve this request.

RESCIND PARKING ½ HOUR – 8AM-6PM

On Hall St., west side, from a point 20 feet south of Spruce St. to a point 45 feet southerly
Alderman Clancy

On motion of Alderman Vaillancourt, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to approve this request.

RESCIND PARKING ½ HOUR

On Massabesic St., north side, from Cypress St. westerly to 344 Massabesic St.
Alderman Clancy

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Hirschmann, it was voted to approve this request.

ONE WAY STREET

South Porter St., from Weston Rd. to Gerald Connors circle – southbound
Alderman Vaillancourt

Janelle Ave., from Thornton St. to Bartlett St., eastbound
Alderman Thibault

Gerald Connors Circle, from South Porter St. easterly to the exit road between properties # 429 and # 455 Weston Rd., and then northerly to Weston Rd.
Alderman Vaillancourt

On motion of Alderman Vaillancourt, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to approve this item.

YIELD SIGN

On Varney St. at Rochelle Ave., nwc
Alderman Cashin

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Vaillancourt, it was voted to approve this item.

STOP SIGN

On Hubbard St., at Concord St., sec
Alderman Sysyn

On motion of Alderman Vaillancourt, duly seconded by Alderman Pariseau, it was voted to approve this item.

Mr. Lolicata brought in the following for the agenda. He stated I am against these. I had to put these on the agenda. We checked it out with the police.

Alderman Hirschmann asked who recommended these.

Mr. Lolicata answered it was recommended by the Alderman. The people up there wanted these. We checked them out.

On West Haven Road at Applecrest Road, nwc, sec (four-way)
Alderman Wihby

On West Haven Road at Robin Hill Road, nwc, sec (four-way)
Alderman Wihby

On motion of Alderman Vaillancourt, duly seconded by Alderman Hirschmann, it was voted to deny the two four-way stop sign.

RESCIND STOP SIGN

On Varney St. at Rochelle Ave., nwc
Alderman Cashin

On Jewett St., at Weston Rd., nec, swc
Alderman Vaillancourt (ordinances to take effect when signals are placed in operation)

RESCIND NO PARKING

On Merrill St., north side, from Pine St. to a point 180 feet westerly
Alderman Levasseur

RESCIND YIELD SIGN

On Massabesic St. at Hall St., nec, sec
Alderman Clancy

RESCIND PARKING 1 HOUR

On Silver St., north side, from Maple St. to Beech St.
Alderman Shea

NO TRUCKS 930PM-7AM

On Longwood Ave., from Mammoth Rd. to Woodbine Ave.
Alderman Clancy

CROSSWALK

On River Rd. north of Ridge Rd.
Alderman Wihby

SIGNALS

Weston Rd. and S. Jewett St. (ordinances to take effect when signals are placed into operation)

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Hirschmann, it was voted to approve the rest of the Traffic Agenda.

TABLED ITEM

Alderman Pariseau moved to remove this item from the table. Alderman Vaillancourt duly seconded the motion.

Copy of a communication from Bruce Thomas, Engineering Manager, submitting an analysis to provide angled parking on the southside of Merrimack Street from Elm to Chestnut Streets.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Hirschmann, it was voted to receive and file this item.

NEW BUSINESS

Alderman Hirschmann stated I don't know if anyone else got a lot of phone calls, but the road race that was held that this Committee approved I got so many phone calls. For some reason we approved it like we do every year, but they blocked off all of the bridges and MTA couldn't get their buses across to the west side. This road race was a disaster.

Chairman Clancy asked which one was that.

Alderman Hirschmann answered the one held last month.

Sgt. Winn stated I believe you are referring to the CIGNA Corporate Road Race that was held on August 10. It was the eighth time they have had it.

Alderman Hirschmann replied the problem, Sgt. Winn, is that nobody notified the MTA. In other words they closed down more than one bridge and they had buses full of people that couldn't get anywhere. I was called by an MTA dispatcher because he lives in my ward. I am just telling you that as a Committee we approved this thing but we have to make sure that people can get around.

Chairman Clancy stated it was a lack of communication evidently between the people running the road race and the police department.

Sgt. Winn replied I can make sure for next year that if the Committee approves it we will have contact with the MTA to resolve any issues they may have.

Alderman Vaillancourt stated I don't know if this Committee has direct jurisdiction but I continue to get calls on a regular basis about the pick-up of yard waste and I believe that is becoming a public safety hazard. This Board has to address that eventually.

Chairman Clancy stated that belongs in the CIP Committee. I know that their contract is coming up in January.

Alderman Pariseau stated I received a 16-page petition dealing with the situation at the Gold Street area and it pertains to the situation where the City planner has proposed the possibility of closing Frontage Road. I just want the Committee to be aware of it. I will leave it with the City Clerk's Office.

Chairman Clancy asked the Clerk to read a letter into the record:

Dear Mr. Clancy:

I operate a manufacturing business at 300 Bedford Street, which of course is in the Millyard section of Manchester. On September 9, 2000 there is a run scheduled, which will effectively shut down my business for the day, by virtue of completely closing off traffic to myself, my employees, and any customers attempting to visit our showroom. Besides my wife and I are four additional people. Each one of these individuals either completely supports, or aids in supporting a family.

I contacted the Union Leader promotions office, and spoke with a woman who identified herself as Jean. She indicated that in fact the entire area would be closed to traffic. No provision was to be made for the benefit of the local businesses. When asked how I was to run my business, which of course facilitates the payment of ret and other expenses, she replied incredulously "you don't expect us not to run the race". While paying the mortgage, food and other of lifes needs expenses may not be as noble as running for our favorite cause, I believe that the local businesses should be afforded some consideration.

While these types of events certainly make people feel good, feel as if they are doing something positive, it certainly should not be to the detriment of the businesses that are paying most of the taxes which keep this area from going completely under. There are several parking lots and fields available which would accommodate the altruistic needs of the concerned runners. An excellent spot might be the Mall of New Hampshire. Most stores do not open until at least 0900 hours. The holier than thou could assembly around 0700 hours, run around the parking lot until the prescribed mileage is attained, and leave most satisfied in the knowledge that they have "done something."

Sincerely,

Mitch Rosen

Alderman Pariseau stated we have already made the commitment to let them conduct the race and I don't see any reason why it shouldn't continue.

Chairman Clancy asked, Sgt. Winn, is there anything you can do for this person.

Sgt. Winn answered I had a phone conversation with that gentleman the other day and told him I would do what we could to accommodate him. However, I will tell you that the race kicks off at 9 AM, is over by 10 AM and we shut the street down at about 8:45 AM so you are looking at about an hour and 15 minutes when the road is totally shut down. I expressed to the gentleman that we can get his workers in before the race if they wanted to come in at 8:30 AM or as soon as practical once the race was complete.

Chairman Clancy asked did you tell him that we already approved the race.

Sgt. Winn answered I didn't tell him it was approved. I told him that a permit had been passed around to the City Clerk's Office, the Police Department, the Highway Department and the Fire Department and that it had been signed off on and I also told him that this is a yearly event in conjunction with Riverfest and had been approved in past years.

On motion of Alderman Pariseau, duly seconded by Alderman Hirschmann, it was voted to receive and file this item.

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

A True Record. Attest.

Clerk of Committee