

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH & TRAFFIC

July 18, 2022 at 5:30 PM

Chairman Barry called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Barry, Long, Stewart, George-Kelly, Sharonov

Messrs.: A. Aldenberg, J. Paige, J. Spencer, J. Melchionna, K. Clarke, M. Lamothe

1. The Traffic Division has submitted an agenda which needs to be addressed:

30 MINUTE PARKING

On Elm Street, east side, from a point 145 feet north of Lowell Street to a point 20 feet north

Alderman Long

NO PARKING - BUS STOP 6AM-6PM, MON-SAT

On Elm Street, east side, from a point 65 feet north of Lowell Street to a point 80 feet north

Alderman Long

NO PARKING ANYTIME

On Young Street, north side, from Jewett Street to Somerville Street

Alderman Heath

STOP SIGN

On Cotter Court at eastern intersection with Young Street, SE Corner

Alderman Heath

NO PARKING LOADING ZONE

On Grove Street, north side, from a point 130 feet east of Wilson Street to a point 60 feet east

Alderman Sapienza

RESCIND NO PARKING LOADING ZONE

On Grove Street, north side, from a point 150 east of Wilson Street to a point 40 feet east

Alderman Sapienza

RESCIND NO PARKING - BUS STOP 6AM-6PM, MON-SAT

On Elm Street, east side, from a point 65 feet north of Lowell Street to a point 100 feet north

(ORD 7892)

Alderman Long

On motion of Alderman Long, duly seconded by Alderman Sharonov, it was voted to approve the traffic agenda items.

2. Communication from Melissa Aupperle, Chaos and Kindness, requesting the use of the Arms Lot from August 26, 2022 through August 28 for their event on August 27.

Alderman Sharonov moved to approve the request.

Alderman Long duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Long stated there have been a couple issues that I've been working on. One is with the Cotton restaurant. At minimum, I'm looking for a traffic pattern where Cotton can stay open. I know we've done it before. I don't know the difficulty of doing it. I guess with larger groups it is a little more difficult. I'm looking to know that that is ongoing. I spoke with an officer today and I can't remember his name but he has taken over for Officer Goodnow. He says that he is looking at that and there may be something that he'll be able to do.

Allen Aldenberg, Police Chief, stated at this moment our tech is going to find out a way to do that for them. We'll stay in close communication with Justin and his team.

Alderman Long stated that's great. The other issue is if the owners of that restaurant could get a cell number of somebody they can contact because a lot of times people will park in their private restaurant parking. So just a cell phone number of an immediate contact. Actually Jeff is here and if you can give an organizer's cell phone in case there is an issue with that he could have direct communication with the organizer. Then there is the trash. Could you lock that trash bin?

Jeff Paige, Cotton Restaurant, stated I have talked to Justin from Chaos and Kindness about the trash removal and he is going to have allocated dumpsters. I told him to be honest and that in the 22 years we've been there, unfortunately from our part of it after everybody leaves and goes home that's when the shit hits the fan. I wanted him to be aware of that because as I mentioned we had the Boston Bruins there and I told them they couldn't put anything on our property. I left and came back the next day and my dumpsters and trash compactors were filled with wood pallets. I had to pay to have that taken care of because nobody else was going to do it. The Bruins offered me an autographed shirt with a bunch of rookies on it as a thank you which was insulting to me because it cost me several hundred dollars for something that wasn't mine and I'm not one to take it all and dump it in the park on the street.

Alderman Long asked can your dumpster be locked.

Mr. Paige answered no; the dumpsters that we have don't have locks on them.

Chairman Barry asked so an autographed shirt from Chaos and Kindness won't do.

Mr. Paige responded no thanks.

Alderman Stewart stated this sounds like an awesome event. Thanks for thinking of Manchester and bringing it here. I agree we want this to be a win-win for everyone in the area. The only question I had was with regard to attendees and traffic. I noticed on

the application it said 5,000 plus were expected. On the Chaos and Kindness website it is saying tens of thousands. Big difference there. I know we had issues with gridlock before with a lot of events and a lot of people coming down all at once. I want to make sure...I don't know the actual number you're expecting but I want to make sure that we are prepared for people who are both attending and just driving through and residents as well.

Chief Aldenberg stated we will be prepared, Alderman. The traffic folks right now are putting the plan together to see what that will look like in terms of traffic flow, but always keeping in mind the egress for people that work in that area to have the ability to get out and in. I heard from Waterworks Café because they had a concern not too long ago. So we're having those conversations with those businesses that are impacted and part of leading up to the event will be that public messaging. If not one week, then two weeks prior. It shouldn't be a surprise that every time we have a large scale event we put it out, as does the city. I think an easy fix for Cotton, and we will have that conversation with them but it may be that we post an officer at his parking lot only allowing people in that are there to go to the restaurant. If we have a dedicated officer for his location, that may take care of a lot of the issues I'm hearing already. We're not going to put the cost on him.

Chairman Barry asked so Jeff the only night you're really concerned about is August 27th, Saturday night.

Mr. Paige stated yeah I think when they load in on Saturday they're going to be in the park. We don't use the park. People park on the street in front of the restaurant and then we have our parking area. Also Dean Kamen allows us on special events to park our staff in the upper part of his lot. We talked to them about making sure that is protected, too, with visitors that are coming that they can't park in the upper lot right behind the restaurant. That's more than enough parking for us. That's all we typically use. There are a few people that will park in Arms Park when they come in, but a bulk of the people will park in front of the restaurant on Arms Street, our parking lot, and we have enough room for our staff to park there.

Alderman Long stated I'm not a restaurateur so I hate giving you advice, but I was talking to people that are going to go to this event and they are excited about it, and they would be more than happy to sit in your outdoor venue getting hors d'oeuvres, having a sip, and listening to music.

Mr. Paige stated I totally understand. We want to be open. I only bring it up because I've done this for twelve years and I haven't had a successful event there yet that has worked for us for many reasons. It's like an outside force. He mentioned having an officer on site which would be incredible because you have people that come in and when we had that big festival a couple of weeks ago, people drove across a road that said no parking and was posted you will be towed, and drove right through and parked their cars in my parking lot. Then I have to tow people and people get mad because I'm a bad person because I'm trying to protect my property. I think an officer would be tremendous to at least ask if they are coming to the restaurant. If my person says these people just walked across the street, they're not coming to the restaurant, they don't have a reservation. On the weekends, especially Saturday, it's 99.9% reservations. You

could easily say it would be a pain for the officer, but you could say those people aren't coming here to eat, they're going to the show and not on our reservation list for that night.

Chairman Barry stated if we can work something out where we can get some signs that say restaurant parking only and have a police officer there that can direct them...

Mr. Paige interjected Denise did those in the past for us. Sometimes she puts them on an old tire rim with a post and she has them out there. I don't know who picks those up but we don't actually have them. She did those in the past for us when they allowed us to park them on Arms Street.

Chairman Barry asked Kristen do you know if you have any signs.

Kristen Clarke, Traffic Engineer, stated we could make some.

Chairman Barry stated maybe you can coordinate with Kristen. She's the head of the traffic division. You can have them make a special sign for you guys.

Mr. Paige stated that sounds great. I think they were just plastic and it just said parking for Cotton and it had a zip tie holding it on to the post and they put them out every so many feet.

Chairman Barry responded we'll stay in touch. If you have any questions or concerns you can contact myself or Alderman Long since he is the Ward 3 alderman.

Mr. Paige stated ok thank you very much.

Chairman Barry asked does anyone from Chaos and Kindness want to come up and say anything about your event. I know a little bit about it from what I have read.

Justin Spencer, Chaos and Kindness, stated first of all thanks for helping us make this an event that's going to be successful. I sat down with Jeff last week when I popped in. We'll make sure that's all taken care of and rectified. I explained to Jeff we could either do a buyout of his restaurant of typically what he makes and we could do an up-sale to VIP. The big thing for me is to make sure that Cotton has no financial loss. That's a big thing for me. Restaurants have gone through hell over the last two years as has entertainment so the last thing we want to see is Jeff or any other restaurant sustain any more liability when it comes to that. To address the question of attendance, tens of thousands is realistically what is going to happen when you look at what we're going to be doing and who we are bringing in. Of course we spent the last 12 years in Las Vegas and we're leveraging those contacts to bring in some world class entertainment. We're bringing in the largest fireworks that Manchester has ever seen in history. It's a very costly event and it is one that I am very passionate about and bringing it back to the community as a Goffstown resident where I grew up playing the Sky Show back in the day. That is what this is all about for me. We want to make sure there is an asterisk there that made sure it is a family friendly event; an event that is predicated around giving back to the community. We'll be raising thousands of backpacks for kids in need which we'll give to the Boys and Girls Club as school approaches the following week.

That's big for us. The Sky Show had some turmoil and some difficulty in the past because of the demographic that they attract. We're doing a good job. It starts with entertainment and it starts with the arts. We're having Recycled Percussion headline, we're having a Michael Jackson tribute band from Vegas come out and some other artists that will attract a different kind of clientele and people. We're going to push the family friendly aspect of this whole thing. I sat down and worked with the Police Chief. I sat down with the Fire Chief a couple of weeks ago to see if there was anything we could do to mitigate the difficulties. Our team is very much on it. Melissa Aupperle is my right hand when it comes to events. She has 30 years of experience in Las Vegas at the highest level. We see nothing but a very successful Sky Show that is going to take place here. I know it is a short turnaround so I appreciate you guys giving us some leeway there. This is something people probably plan more of a year in advance, and this is more like sixteen weeks so we're already posting it's happening before we get the ok from you guys but we felt like we're going to get this thing done and we'll do whatever we can to make it happen. Any questions for me about the event? We drove down from Laconia today. Do you feel it's necessary to come back tomorrow?

Chairman Barry stated you don't have to come back tomorrow.

Alderman Long asked are you asking us to move this to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

Mr. Spencer stated I'm asking if you have any questions for me.

Alderman Long asked are we planning on bringing this to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen tomorrow night.

Matthew Normand, City Clerk, stated we meet on August 2.

Alderman Long asked is the August 2 timeline good with you.

Mr. Spencer asked what is happening on August 2.

Alderman Long replied the full Board of Mayor and Aldermen meets. We're a committee that makes a recommendation to the full Board.

Alderman Sharonov stated the report has to layover for two weeks; it's not going to be presented tomorrow.

Mr. Spencer stated okay. We have sponsors on hold for legal reasons and one of the big sponsors is NH State Lottery. They will not give funding until there is an okay from you guys. Why that matters is because their level of commitment is going to be based around a lot of the radio play. We already have commercials and radio set. It's a quarter million-dollar day for me, so to make sure we get this in play is going to matter to the sponsors. We have some big sponsors that are coming to the table. If you give us another date that'd be great. We thought it would be tomorrow. If it's August 2 now, then I don't know why we heard tomorrow.

Chairman Barry stated we could move it up to tomorrow with the understanding that people here are going to coordinate with Jeff and Cotton because that is the only concern that we have and Jeff has. With the understanding that you're going to coordinate with Jeff to make sure he is happy and things are going well, keep in touch with us if you have any concerns or questions or whatever, I don't have a problem with it going to the full board tomorrow night.

Mr. Spencer stated okay. We're working with Jeff. Jeff knows we have spent most of our time talking about how we can accommodate Cotton. It is a priority to us. We'll make sure no matter what, whatever Jeff needs, we'll rectify it from the beginning so there is no problem.

Chairman Barry asked this is August 26 which is a Friday through Sunday.

Mr. Spencer answered it's the 27th with a rain date of the 28th.

Chairman Barry stated okay. What are you doing on the 26th setting up?

Mr. Spencer stated we're loading for the stage. Specifically, we're doing lasers, which has never been done before there. There are a lot of lasers coming in. In order to choreograph the lasers to the shows it has to be done during the night, and you can't do that the night of the show for obvious reasons. So my tech crew is coming in. I think they are coming in the night before to do some loading and programming.

Chairman Barry responded okay. He has got to introduce himself.

Mr. Spencer stated alright, Jimmy. This is your moment, bud. You've been waiting for it all day. Hey listen, if you mess this up they are going to say no. Tell them why it is important to have a show.

Jimmy Melchionna stated it is important because it is fun. There is going to be a lot of cool stuff going on. I'm going to be in the show and Justin is going to be in the show, and it's going to get crazy.

Chairman Barry stated thank you, guys and called for a vote on the motion. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

3. Communication from Alderman E. Sapienza requesting the acquisition of traffic signs at Connecting Road/Brown Avenue, Brown Avenue/South Beech Street, and Frontage Road at HD Supply at a cost of \$12,000.

Alderman Long moved to approve the request.

Alderman Sharonov duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Long stated I think we need to identify where the \$12,000 is coming from. I would recommend that it comes out of contingency. Now again, contingency is where during the year after our budget we take money out for constituent services that they need just to remind the alderman from ward eight.

Alderman Sharonov asked Kristen, some of these signs that are maintained by the city, do we have them in stock. Is that included in the \$12,000 or do we have to purchase them?

Ms. Clarke stated that map we handed out was just to give you guys an indication of signs that are already out there today. We wanted to make sure everyone was clear on the amount of signage that is there and that people aren't listening. Some flashing lights may help, a lot of it is GPS and there is not a way around it until there is a commercial GPS system. From a static science perspective, we've done all we can so that's why we wanted to give you the map to see what is out there already today.

Chairman Barry stated so we have a motion to approve with the understanding that the funds will come through contingency.

Chairman Barry called for a vote on the motion to approve with the recommendation that the \$12,000 come out of the contingency account. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

4. Communication from Chief Andre Parent, Fire Department, requesting authorization to enter into an agreement with the State Fire Marshal's office which would enable them to provide emergency hazardous materials responses to any community that is not part of the coverage area of a regional hazardous materials team.

Alderman Long moved to approve the request.

Alderman George-Kelly duly seconded the motion.

Alderman Sharonov asked can someone from the Fire Department come up. The question I have is how many of these emergency material responses there have been in the zone up north in the past twelve months.

Matthew Lamothe, Deputy Fire Chief, answered none.

Alderman Sharonov stated the reason I am asking is because the reimbursement rate is capped at \$80,000. I don't want to go over the cap.

Deputy Chief Lamothe stated since I have been on the Fire Department, we have never had one and I have been there for 21 years. This is something we are always a part of, this contract. This is basically a name change from Chief Goonan to Chief Parent.

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

5. Special events update from the Police Department, if available.

Chief Aldenberg stated July 21st is the Happy Hour Hustle up at McIntyre. July 28th is another Happy Hour Hustle down at the Delta Dental Center and the Fisher Cats. July 30th is a road closing on Arms Street for a vacation bible school put on by the New

Testament Christian Fellowship Church. Near and dear to my heart on August 2nd is National Night Out over at the JFK/Beech Street School area. That event is coming together nicely so we're hoping to capitalize on the progress we made last year. On August 4th is another Happy Hour Hustle on the Rockingham Trail. On August 1st will be a significant event with the Cigna Road Race. Obviously Elm Street closures with about 3,000 to 5,000 runners so that is going to require a large amount of police, around 31. August 20th is the Liberty House Leatherneck motorcycle ride that will take off from the Liberty House on Orange Street. Those road closures will be temporary until we get them out of the city. You obviously heard about the Chaos and Kindness event on August 27th. September 1st is another Happy Hour Hustle at the West Side Ice Arena. September 3rd will be another significant event, the Cruising Downtown Car Show. Obviously road closures on Elm Street to Granite up to Bridge. Pending any questions, that is all I have.

*There being no further business, on motion of **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Stewart**, it was voted to adjourn.*

A True Record. Attest.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Normand". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

City Clerk