

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH & TRAFFIC

January 16, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Chairman Vincent called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Vincent, Morgan, Kantor, Barry, Goonan

Chairman Vincent advised that the first purpose of the meeting is organizational in nature, and requested the Clerk to provide a brief overview regarding typical issues addressed by the Committee.

Matthew Normand, City Clerk, stated this committee shall have jurisdiction over all matters committed to the committee by the ordinance and by an act authorizing the Board of Mayor and Aldermen in the City of Manchester to delegate its authority pertaining to the regulation of highways, Chapter 335 1951 NH Laws 815, as well as jurisdiction over parking facilities and the health and safety of the citizens of Manchester and other such matters as may be referred by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. This committee shall review all such referrals and, where required, after due and careful consideration shall report back to the Board of Mayor and Aldermen.

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

NO PARKING ANYTIME

On Bridge Street, south side, from Highland Street to Mammoth Road
Alderman Fajardo

RESCIND NO PARKING LOADING ZONE

On Hayward Street, south side, from a point 60 feet east of Riley Avenue to a point 22 feet east (ORD 10422)
Alderman Terrio

Alderman Terrio stated I have a map that I would like to handout to the committee. The front door is where the red X is and that is Hayward Street. That is where the No Loading Zone is. The property looks like an L and the back of the garage is on Sunnyside Street. If you would indulge me, I will explain. What happened was I was contacted by some neighbors who were upset that at night and on weekends and holidays parking is hard because there are a lot of cars there and wanted the No Loading Zone removed. I am kind of between a rock and a hard place because I have some constituents saying get rid of this and I met with the family where it is located. They are a nice family and they have asked me to read a statement into the record. I think you folks have received it. It is from the Cardow Family:

Dear Committee Members:

We hereby request that the No Parking Loading Zone sign in front of 1039 Hayward Street remain in effect. On the south side of Hayward Street between Riley and Sunnyside Street there are three houses; two corner lots and our house which is 1039. During the winter, the only direct access from Hayward

Street to the house is the Loading Zone where the signs are posted. We maintain the whole sidewalk in front of the loading zone and the entryway into the house and the area on the side of the house where the oil used to be delivered to make sure that it is free of snow and that the icy areas are treated so there is safe passage to these areas. It is imperative to have this area open for the safety of the residents, especially the 93-year-old gentleman who is the father and owns the house and the 62-year-old gentleman with health issues. It allows access for emergency vehicles like ambulance and fire and for oil to be delivered. It also is a safe place to drop off handicapped people when the walking conditions are bad or icy. If there is a fire in the house or they had to exit the front door, they would not be able to get out to the road and cross the street. If a car is parked in the space and there are snowbanks, it would be very unsafe and difficult to have to walk on the sidewalk in snowy or icy conditions to reach Riley Avenue or Sunnyside Street. During the last two years, the ambulance and Fire Department have responded at least 4-6 times to the residence for emergency situations. This is the only area that can be kept clear so that the oil can be delivered to the house. Oil is usually delivered once every month during the winter months. It is being argued by the other parties that emergency personnel could access our house through our driveway on Sunnyside Street, however, in the winter months due to lack of space and the snow having to be plowed onto the side of the garage, we end up losing access to the back of the house through the driveway. Oil can only be delivered from the front of the house. We are only talking about one space. There is still room to park four cars in that area plus there is plenty of room to park on the other side of the street and additional space for people to park in their driveways. During the week when our family members come to visit, they usually park in our driveway leaving spaces to park on the street available for neighbors.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

s/The Cardow Family – Robert, Kevin and Destiny

Alderman Barry stated Alderman Terrio this is your ward and you already said you have spoken with the neighbors. What is your opinion? What do you want the committee to do?

Alderman Terrio responded I am between a rock and a hard place. I have three who complained and don't want it there and then I have constituents that do want it there. I am kind of in a quandary.

Alderman Barry stated to follow-up, the dilemma that we have throughout the city is we have too many people applying for loading zones. I know in Ward 10 when I first got elected there was a gentleman who had a loading zone specifically for someone that was handicapped and they needed a special van to come in and pick-up and drop that person off. After that person moved out, he wanted the sign moved to another building that he had right next door. Come to find out it was because he just didn't want anyone to park in front of his house. I am not saying that is what these people are doing. I am sure they are doing it for good reason. I talked to Kristen Clarke this morning and she

said that was put in place in 2015 for a certain individual but that person is no longer living there.

Alderman Terrio replied that is correct. The mother has since passed away unfortunately.

Alderman Goonan asked so Alderman Terrio at some point this was passed by the Board to give them one spot.

Alderman Terrio answered yes. Kristen Clarke is saying 2015 but I thought it was three years ago. I am hazy on the dates but it hasn't been a very long time but it has been at least three years and possibly longer.

Alderman Goonan stated I know the family and I lived around the corner my whole life. I know the father and the father is 93 and disabled so there is likely an issue there. Is there a big hardship in keeping this there or is there a process to reapply for this?

Alderman Terrio responded what I was told by the city engineer is that the city doesn't like handicap spaces. There is a moratorium on handicap spaces in front of people's houses. I don't know if they qualify for a handicap space or not but to get around that moratorium, they did the no loading zone.

Alderman Barry stated if I read this correctly, you have someone living there who is up there in age and has been dependent on this for a few years. When I spoke with Kristen she did specifically say 2015 so it has been there. I don't see any reason to rescind it. It is up to you because you are the ward alderman. I feel comfortable keeping it there.

Alderman Terrio stated I will defer to the committee.

Alderman Goonan stated I feel the same way. I feel comfortable keeping it there. Maybe it is just because I know that there is an issue. Is there any way we can...I understood when this was passed at one point that it was supposed to end when Mrs. Cardow passed away. Can we do that again?

Alderman Terrio replied I am not sure specifically but it is in place as we speak.

*On motion of **Alderman Barry**, duly seconded by **Alderman Goonan**, it was voted to approve the No Parking Anytime on Bridge Street.*

*On motion of **Alderman Barry**, duly seconded by **Alderman Goonan**, it was voted to receive and file the Rescind No Parking Loading Zone.*

3. Communication from Alderman O'Neil, President, St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, requesting approval to paint shamrocks at the intersections of Elm & Hanover and Elm & Pleasant Streets on Saturday, March 2 with a rain date of March 9.

*On motion of **Alderman Barry**, duly seconded by **Alderman Goonan**, it was voted to approve the request.*

*There being no further business, on motion of **Alderman Barry**, duly seconded by **Alderman Kantor**, 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.

Clerk of Committee