

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH & TRAFFIC

November 19, 2024 at 5:30 PM

Chairman Vincent called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

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

Messrs.: K. Clarke, R. Cashin

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

HANDICAP PARKING ONLY

On Clay Street, north side, from a point 270 feet west of Cypress Street to a point 30 feet further west

NOT RECOMMENDED BY DPW PER HANDICAP PARKING MORATORIUM ATTACHED

Alderman Terrio

SCHOOL ZONE

On Elm Street, between Carpenter Street and Bennington Street (for Webster School)

Alderman Morgan

Chairman Vincent stated regarding the handicap parking, my understanding is that this particular residence also has parking for 2-3 vehicles and they are just looking to have a handicap parking space put in front of their house to ease the parking. Kristen is recommending that we deny this. Is it true, Kristen that they have their own private driveway and they just want a handicap spot in front of their house?

Kristen Clarke, Traffic Engineer, answered yes and we don't recommend these in residential areas that have driveways. They become a problem when someone moves when they are intended for an individual person. Technically anyone could park there but if they move we have to come back to rescind it. It isn't that they don't have somewhere to park.

Alderman Barry stated I have run into this where a constituent has asked for a handicap space and come to find out that they only reason they wanted it was to keep people from parking in front of their house. I know that we have to be very careful about putting these up because all over the city people will want them in front of their houses so people don't park there. These are public streets.

Ms. Clarke responded right and in denser areas where there is limited parking and there might be more multi-families with fewer spaces on the street, there might be cases where it is warranted but in this situation given the driveway, we would not recommend it.

Chairman Vincent stated I would like to split these two. Can I have a motion on the handicap parking?

*On motion of **Alderman Morgan**, duly seconded by **Alderman Kantor**, it was voted to receive and file.*

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

2. Communication from Ryan Cashin, Fire Chief, requesting approval of the city's Hazard Mitigation Plan.

Chairman Vincent stated I don't want to take up too much time on this. Can you just summarize and gives us the benefits, the cost and how this will be paid down the road?

Ryan Cashin, Fire Chief, stated the Hazard Mitigation Plan reduced the loss of life and property by minimizing the impact of disasters. The rewrite has been going on for about eight months. What we do is we work with the city departments and find areas in the city that could possibly be strengthened like the sewer separation project for example. Just last year, we increased the fiber loop in the City of Manchester to help with cybersecurity and connectivity. These are all things where if we can mitigate that risk before something happens such as a natural or man-made disaster, it saves the city money. The important thing about this plan is that it is required by the federal government in order to receive a lot of the grants that the city gets. Every opportunity we found in the plan is accomplished by a grant and there are a lot of grant opportunities out there. In the discussions I have had about the upcoming grant writer for the city, this is really one of the areas that I was focusing on. These grants are very labor intensive and long and detailed. These are the things where the city can capitalize on a lot of money from the federal government to improve the city before anything happens.

Chairman Vincent asked when would we start doing the grant process for something like this because we are not looking at getting that grant writer under February. Would we have to start that on our end prior to that?

Chief Cashin answered we would be starting as quickly as we can. If time allows, we will start the grant process ahead of time if we can.

*On motion of **Alderman Barry**, duly seconded by **Alderman Morgan**, it was voted to accept the plan.*

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

A True Record. Attest.



Clerk of Committee