

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH & TRAFFIC

November 16, 2021 at 5:30 PM

Chairman Barry called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Barry, Gamache, Stewart, Long, Terrio

Messrs.: D. Mowery, K. Clarke, S. Mangone

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

NO PARKING ANYTIME

On Maple Street, east side, from Silver Street to Somerville Street

Alderman Terrio

RESCIND NO PARKING ANYTIME

On Maple Street, east side, from Somerville Street northerly to the railroad right of way (ORD 3348)

Alderman Terrio

NO PARKING LOADING ZONE

On Massabesic Street, north side, from a point 75 feet west of Clifford Avenue to a point 30 feet further west

Alderman Sapienza

Language for Northwest Elementary- Plan Approved at 10/5/21 BMA Meeting:

NO PARKING ANYTIME

On Mason Street, north side, from Youville Street to a point 80 feet west

NO PARKING- 7 AM TO 4 PM- SCHOOL DAYS

On Youville Street, west side, from Dexter Street to a point 150 feet south

On Youville Street, west side, from a point 224 feet south of Dexter Street to a point 106 feet south

NO PARKING- ACTIVE LOADING AND UNLOADING ONLY – 7 AM TO 9 AM, 2 PM TO 4 PM- SCHOOL DAYS

On Mason Street, north side, from a point 80 feet west of Youville Street to a point 120 feet west

On Youville Street, west side, from a point 330 feet south of Dexter Street to a point 220 feet south

RESCIND 1 HOUR PARKING DURING SCHOOL HOURS

On Mason Street, north side, from Youville Street to Alsace Street (ORD 6490)

On motion by Alderman Long, duly seconded by Alderman Terrio, it was voted to approve.

2. Communication from Alderman Sharonov requesting the waiver of potential police detail fees for a holiday neighborhood block party to take place on December 12, 2021 on Holt Avenue.

Alderman Long asked is a police detail required.

Alderman Sharonov replied to my knowledge no. Mr. Mowery is available for comment as well.

Alderman Long asked did Mr. Mowery apply for a permit.

Mr. Mowery, property owner of 112 Holt Ave, stated yes I applied for a permit. In August we had a block party which raised almost \$1,200 for the mounted police. We had a fair amount of neighbors, Alderman Terrio, Senator Donna Soucy and quite a few neighbors attend. We had a good time and raised quite a bit of money. When I went to apply for the permit like I did with the last one, I was informed by the Traffic Division that they had four complaints from neighbors who said they could not get to Holt Avenue. If you know Holt Avenue, you know you could get anywhere in the neighborhood at that time. Now, there is a potential we may have to hire a police detail. The thing is, everyone who participated, every one of us spent anywhere between \$100-\$300 of our own money to have the party. We had tons of merchants from Concord to Manchester donating their time and food, prizes and all kinds of things for people.

Alderman Long stated well thank you for organizing this. This is revitalization.

Mr. Mowery replied this is what our city needs.

Alderman Long stated I thank you for that. You are not even sure if you need a detail yet?

Mr. Mowery replied correct and it could cost us up to \$500. We have already spent a lot of money on 200+ gifts. Mr. and Mrs. Claus are coming and donating their time. We are raising money for Toys for Tots. The Marines are coming and we also have two vans loaded with jackets, hats and gloves which will go to homeless shelters and the Liberty House. Jeep, Chrysler Dodge, Leblanc's Hardware, Queen City Ace, Hannaford and many other places have donated.

Alderman Long stated the taxpayer picks up the \$500 fee if it gets waived.

Mr. Mowery replied I understand that. Every time we raise money it goes back to the city. We understand that. If you look at the map of Holt Avenue, it is just one block. My partner and I own the only house in that section. Then you have Allied Street and four houses there. They are all committee members and they can get around that.

Alderman Long stated there is \$1 million coming to the city in a Community Events and Activities Grant. I believe this would fit into the community event category. I am not

sure if we would need Leon or someone to look at that to see if it would fall under ARPA funding.

Chairman Barry stated you mentioned at the outset you spent \$1,200 for the mounted police, was that because you requested them?

Mr. Mowery stated we raised that money for them. We raised money for Officer Kelly and General Stark and they were there. The community police were there too; I believe his name is Officer Brian.

Chairman Barry stated when you went to the city and they said there were complaints did you find out who the complaints were from. What I would suggest honestly, without even knowing, is making sure you invite every neighbor. You should inquire from all of them to find out what the pros and cons were from the first one to make it more workable for everyone. I don't think you need the police, I really don't. If something happens you can give them a call.

Mr. Mowery stated we will also have the Fire Department there. They are bringing Mr. and Mrs. Claus. Our neighborhood is more of a family; we have had no issues. People will walk by and say that our block party was great. We distributed over 280 invitations. Everyone who lives near Holt Avenue has an invitation. We do not anticipate it to be as big as the summer party because it is now cold. Most of it is directed towards children. Mr. and Mrs. Claus will be there and the Marines will be there to collect Toys for Tots. We are raising money for the Fire Department and raising money for the homeless vets.

Chairman Barry said it's getting close to the date. That old saying don't ask don't tell, if they didn't say you needed a permit then don't ask them.

Alderman Terrio replied Mr. Mowery invited me and many other city officials to the family event. It wasn't like an adult event; it was geared towards children. I'd imagine the people who complained were just mad because they had to drive around that section. Correct me if I was wrong but the first time you applied, you did not require a police detail. You are not so much asking to waive the fee but the actual police detail itself. I think that is his point of contention.

Chairman Barry stated but yes he is asking to waive the detail.

Alderman Terrio said he is asking to have the detail waived.

Alderman Sharonov interjected, if I may, he is asking to have the fee waived if the police detail is required to receive the permit. There is no specific request for the police to be present.

Chairman Barry replied just so you know we will have a meeting the first week of December. If it comes up, it's up to the committee. I would suggest you make sure everyone has access in and out. If there are emergency vehicles that need to get in or out of there, then other vehicles should be able to as well.

Mr. Mowery stated the last time I applied for the permit I mapped out the whole neighborhood and how easy it was to get in behind Allied Street and all that. If you have ever been there, there are several ways in. The section we are blocking off is only four houses; it's an easy in and out.

Chairman Barry replied yes it sounds like you did a great job. Thank you for all that you are doing for the first responders, Toys for Tots and the homeless veterans.

Alderman Stewart stated a detail has not been required as of yet. Sounds like we are just talking theoretically right now.

Mr. Mowery replied I have called Sergeant Dubois and I know he is busy. I know Manchester PD is extremely busy but I have not heard back yet.

Steve Mangone, Assistant Chief of Police, stated we will get on it.

Chairman Barry stated I would recommend not voting on waiving the fees because we don't know if he even needs them.

Alderman Terrio stated I wouldn't say anything about the fee. I would say let's just vote on if he needs a detail or not.

Chairman Barry replied that isn't up to us, that is up to the police.

Assistant Chief Mangone stated it sounds like it isn't required and it is fine with me.

Alderman Long stated we have another week before your event. We have already heard it and we can check with Leon for the ARPA funding because I think this fits in it. We have another meeting prior to your event. If for some reason they say you need a permit, we might be able to use that.

Alderman Sharonov asked just to clarify, the committee's stance is for Mr. Mowery to apply for a permit and see how it goes.

Chairman Barry replied if something comes up we have a meeting the first Tuesday of December. If there is an emergency situation we need to take care of then contact the city or myself. You are in good hands.

Mr. Mowery replied I need three more signatures on this permit - Fire, Health and the Highway Department. I don't have the permit but the Police Department does.

Alderman Long asked are you waiting for them to sign it.

Mr. Mowery replied I am waiting for Police to sign off then I take it to the Fire Department through Fire Prevention. Then it goes to the Health Department and they will ask if it is by invitation only.

Chairman Barry stated we will take care of it.

Alderman Terrio stated we should table this then.

*On motion by **Alderman Terrio**, duly seconded by **Alderman Long**, it was voted to table this item.*

3. Communication from Sandy Sakelaris, Assistant Property Manager, Wellington Terrace Apartments, requesting a traffic light at the intersection of Mammoth Road, Smyth Road, and Wellington Terrace Drive.

Alderman Stewart stated I wanted to bring this up and request that a study be conducted by DPW. I have been contacted by the Wellington Terrace Apartments. They got together and signed a petition stating they would like a light at the intersection of Mammoth Road, Smyth Road and Wellington Terrace. These things need to be studied and data needs to be collected to see if it is warranted. I would love to hear from Ms. Clarke and would love to see a motion to ask the DPW to conduct a study.

Kristen Clarke, Traffic Engineer, stated as you know there are MUTCD warrants we have to look at to determine if a signal is warranted. The request was based on safety. I believe the Assistant Property Manager got into a car accident there. We did coordinate with PD to collect the crash data since 2018 and there have been less than two per year. Four of those were single vehicle or rear end type crashes so it wasn't related to visibility. That makes only three accidents over four years. We don't have the traffic volume data to see or know if the volume warrants it. I think it would probably be low but if it is the Board's pleasure, we would be happy to collect traffic counts and do this study. For safety alone, it would not meet the standards.

Chairman Barry asked what is the timeline.

Alderman Stewart replied there is none.

Chairman Barry replied so you want to leave it up to them.

Alderman Stewart replied I would just like them to conduct the study.

Chairman Barry stated so you want to make a motion to approve the analysis.

*On motion by **Alderman Long**, duly seconded by **Alderman Terrio**, it was voted to authorize the Public Works Department to conduct a traffic study.*

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

Assistant Chief Mangone stated these are the last events for the calendar year. These are recurring. The first one is on Thanksgiving, and it is the Fisher Cats Race run by

Millennium Running. On December 4th at 2:30 PM we have the Santa Shuffle 5K by Millennium Running. Immediately after that, as we know, is the InTown Manchester Christmas Parade. Then on December 5th we have Jingle Bells 5K which will be held at Fisher Cats Stadium but they will be using the trails. There will be no impact on traffic for that one. Hopefully this is it for the year.

*There being no further business, on motion by **Alderman Terrio**, 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.

Clerk of Committee