



March 28, 2018

Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes

A meeting of the Public Works Committee was held on Tuesday, March 27, 2018, at DPW Headquarters, 301 Broad Street, at 5:00 PM.

Committee Members Present: Councillors Joel Kaddy (chair), Paul Beauchemin, Dave Clark, Marissa Fleming, Sam Squailia

Committee Members Absent: (none)

Others Present: DPW Commissioner Lenny Laakso
DPW Superintendent Gary Withington
Mary Fritz, Resident
Tony Alleva, Resident
Chris Couture, Resident

Action taken as follows:

Petition 243-17: Councillor Paul Beauchemin, on behalf of Norman Beauvais, to request a sidewalk in front of Dunkin Donuts located on Electric Avenue.

Discussion: Chris Couture frequently walks along Electric Ave and said that a sidewalk is needed- it is dangerous to walk through the Dunkin Donuts parking lot, as drivers backing out of parking spaces do not always see pedestrians. Commissioner Laakso said that the trees were planted at the request of the Planning Board in 2002 (Special Permit #02-6); however, in 2009, the Planning Board approved replacing the planting strip with a sidewalk but it has not been done. The Committee voted, 5-0, to GRANT the petition.

Petition 300-17: Councillor Marcus DiNatale, Councillor Paul Beauchemin and Lisa Hebert to install a berm at 47 Elmwood Avenue.

Discussion: Councillor Beauchemin stated that the work has already been done. The Committee voted, 5-0, to give the petition LEAVE TO WITHDRAW.

COMMISSIONER

301 Broad Street
978-829-1910
978-345-9687 FAX

STREETS & PARKS

301 Broad Street
978-829-1900
978-345-9687 FAX

WASTEWATER

Princeton Road
978-345-9622
978-345-9623 FAX

SEWER COLLECTION

301 Broad Street
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WATER

1200 Rindge Road
978-345-9616
978-345-9555 FAX

ENGINEERING

301 Broad Street
978-829-1917
978-345-9687 FAX

CEMETERIES

115 Mount Elam Road
978-345-9578
978-345-9686 FAX

Petition 038-18: Councillor Paul Beauchemin and City Solicitor Vincent Pusateri to petition the City Council to authorize all actions to ensure that the property located at 150 Legros St be provided access via public ways. It appears the City will be required to cause a survey, obtain an appraisal and perform a taking by eminent domain.

Discussion: Councillor Beauchemin stated that the city auctioned off the paper street (continuation of Shea St) between Legros St and Franklin Rd many years ago. It was purchased by the owner of JD Variety of Franklin Rd. This leaves the owner of 150 Legros St without access to her driveway and garage via a public way. He said that the city should take the strip of land by eminent domain between Legros St and the driveway. Councillor Kaddy stated that this seems to be a private property issue, and he proposed that the Committee receive an explanation from the City Solicitor. The Committee voted, 5-0, to HOLD the petition.

Petition 040-18: Councillor Marcus DiNatale and Miriam Ruiz to install new fencing at the Boylston Street Playground.

Discussion: Councillor Squailia looked at the fence and said that the only real bad part is at the gate. Commissioner Laakso stated that the lot was a former city playground that was abandoned by the Parks Board years ago, and the city should again look into selling the property. The Committee voted, 5-0, to give the petition LEAVE TO WITHDRAW.

Petition 041-18: Councillor Michael Kushmerek and Ms. Sharon Bernard to repair the handicap accessible ramp located at the crosswalk immediately in front of the library. The ramp and adjoining curb are uneven, causing pooling and hazardous ice buildup.

Discussion: Superintendent Withington stated that the work needs to be done and would be scheduled by DPW. Cost is \$1,550. The Committee voted, 5-0, to GRANT the petition.

Petition 048-18: Councillors Elizabeth Walsh and Marcus DiNatale along with resident Mary Fritz to erect jersey barriers at the corner of 400 Rollstone Road (intersection of Rollstone Road and Brittany Lane), to mitigate frequent motor vehicle accidents occurring on residents property.

Discussion: Mary Fritz and Tony Alleva said that there have been many accidents at this location, usually during winter conditions. In response to previous petitions, DPW has installed boulders and caution signs at the intersection and curve, but the problem persists. Various suggestions were made at the meeting, including jersey barriers, 6x6 timber fencing, bollards, and flashing signs. It was agreed that Superintendent Withington will meet with the residents to discuss the next steps. The Committee voted, 5-0, to HOLD the petition.

Petition 049-18: Evan Corrigan to request that segments of Water Street be repaved.

Discussion: Commissioner Laakso stated that Water Street might be rebuilt as part of the bridge replacement projects in 2021 between the bridge over the Nashua and the bridge over Boulder Drive, and he is waiting for a determination from MassDOT. However, the road is in poor condition and needs attention now. He has discussed this with the mayor, and plans to pave the road between the bridges with 1-1/2" of asphalt for \$60,000 to make it passable. The Committee voted, 5-0, to GRANT the petition.

Petition 070-18: Councillor Marcus DiNatale and resident Lorelei McClure to repave the portion of Rindge Road just after McKay Elementary School.

Discussion: Commissioner Laakso said that the road is in poor condition and McKay School now uses it as the designated route for pick-ups and drop-offs. It is already on the 2018 paving plan and will be done by DPW at a cost of \$190,000. The Committee voted, 5-0, to GRANT the petition.

Petition 071-18: Councillor Elizabeth Walsh and John Carbone to address drainage problem at 33 Damon Road that is creating a road hazard.

Discussion: Superintendent Withington said that the problem can be addressed for \$2,000 by installing a drop inlet, pipe and swale to prevent runoff from entering the road. The Committee voted, 5-0, to GRANT the petition.

Petition 072-18: Councillor Elizabeth Walsh and Sam Erhagbai to address drainage problem at 96 Lancaster Ave. Each time it rains, water into driveway and results in standing water in his garage.

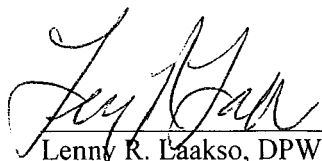
Discussion: Superintendent Withington said he will patch the small gaps between the curb and the driveway apron to keep street runoff from the driveway. However, the driveway is very steep, and goes downhill to the garage, so runoff from the driveway to the garage cannot be avoided. The Committee voted, 5-0, to give the petition LEAVE TO WITHDRAW.

Petition 073-18: Councillor Elizabeth Walsh to address drainage problem at 264 Boutelle Street. Install a berm along the East side of Boutelle St. from Harvard St. to St. Bernard St. and pave the sidewalk. AMENDED to READ: "Councillor Elizabeth Walsh to address drainage problem at 264 Boutelle Street. Install a berm along the East side of Boutelle St. in front of 264 Boutelle Street and pave the sidewalk."

Discussion: Superintendent Withington stated that runoff from Maverick Street crosses Boutelle and causes the problem. Rather than installing berm and sidewalk between Harvard and St. Bernard Streets which would cost \$15,800, he recommended a berm and sidewalk in front of 264 Boutelle St at a cost of \$2,500, as this should resolve most of the problem. The Committee voted, 5-0, to GRANT the petition AS AMENDED.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Lenny R. Laakso, DPW Commissioner
Clerk of Committee

Distribution:

Mayor Stephen L. DiNatale
City Clerk, City Councillors
Gary Bevilacqua, Assistant City Engineer
Gary Withington, Superintendent of Streets
File 2.3A