

TO: JOHN P. BOHENKO, CITY MANAGER

FROM: KELLI L. BARNABY, CITY CLERK

RE: ACTIONS TAKEN BY THE PORTSMOUTH CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON JULY 14, 2003 COUNCIL CHAMBER, MUNICIPAL COMPLEX, ONE JUNKINS AVENUE, PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

PRESENT: MAYOR SIRRELL, ASSISTANT MAYOR HANSON, COUNCILORS GRASSO, HYNES, PANTELAKOS, WHITEHOUSE, MARCONI AND ST. LAURENT

ABSENT: COUNCILOR LOWN

1. At 6:00 p.m., a non-meeting with Counsel was held regarding personnel matters.
2. Proclamation – Colleen Montiminy – School Board Member – Mayor Sirrell presented a Proclamation to Colleen Montiminy in recognition of her service to the Portsmouth School Board. Colleen accepted the Proclamation with appreciation. On behalf of the School Board, Chairman Kent LaPage presented Colleen with a Certificate of Appreciation and gift for her service to the School Board. Colleen accepted the certificate and gift with thanks.
3. Mayor’s Awards – Little League – Major Division Champions “American Legion” - Mayor Sirrell presented Mayor’s Awards to each member and coach of the American Legion in recognition of their Championship.
4. Mayor’s Awards – Little League – AAA Minor Division Champions “Knights of Columbus” – Mayor Sirrell presented Mayor’s Awards to each member and coach of the Knights of Columbus in recognition of their Championship.
5. Mayor’s Awards – Little League – AA Minor Division Champions – “Portsmouth Pizza Factory” - Mayor Sirrell presented Mayor’s Awards to each member and coach of the Portsmouth Pizza Factory in recognition of their Championship.
6. Members of the Portsmouth Police Explorer Cadet Post 2609 – Mayor Sirrell presented Mayor’s Awards to each member of the Portsmouth Police Explorer Cadet Post 2609 in recognition of their first place finish in a recent competition.
7. Presentation – John Burke, Director of Parking and Transportation Re: Route 33/B&M Bridge Replacement Project – Parking and Transportation Director Burke provided a brief presentation regarding the Route 33/B&M Bridge Replacement Project.
8. Presentation - David Moore, Intern/Cindy Hayden, Community Development Director Re: 2003 Portsmouth, UNH Survey of City Residents – David and Cindy provided a presentation of the results from the survey conducted by UNH of City residents.

9. Presentation – Portsmouth High School students trip to Russia – Alex Herlihy, Patrick Ganz and students from Portsmouth High and Oyster River High Schools discussed their experiences from the recent trip to Severodvinsk, Russia.
10. Acceptance of Minutes – June 16, 2003 – Voted to approve and accept the City Council minutes of the June 16, 2003 meeting.
11. Public Comment Session – There were five speakers: Harold Ecker (City Business); James Horrigan (Leary Field); Jeffrey Cooper (Library Site); Martin Cameron and Mark Lavoie (Ocean Road).
12. Grant Award from the New Hampshire Community Health Institute in the amount of \$3,000 for the City’s participation in the New Hampshire Health Alert Network – Voted to accept the \$3,000 grant awarded to the City of Portsmouth from the New Hampshire Community Health Institute.
13. Grant Award from the Greater Piscataqua Community Foundation’s Otto Fund in the amount of \$10,000 to match the City’s funding for the LEED Application and certification process for the Portsmouth Public Library – Voted to accept the \$10,000 grant awarded to the City of Portsmouth from the Greater Piscataqua Community Foundation.
14. Grant Award from the New Hampshire Attorney General in the amount of \$7,500 to the Police Department for enforcing underage drinking laws – Voted to approve and accept the grant to the Portsmouth Police Department as listed.
15. Donation from the Guild at the Portsmouth Regional Hospital in the amount of \$650 to the Police Department for the infant car seat program – Voted to approve and accept the donation to the Portsmouth Police Department as listed.
16. Donation from the Parrott Avenue Place in the amount of \$2,500 – Voted to accept the \$2,500 donation to the City of Portsmouth from Parrott Avenue Place.
17. Donation from Anthony & Catherine Hatch, in memory of Elaine Driscoll Vetter in the amount of \$150 for playground and park improvements at Pannaway Park – Voted to accept the \$150 donation to the City of Portsmouth from Anthony and Catherine Hatch.
18. Donation from the Kane Family, in memory of Thomas J. Kane and Thomas D. Kane in the amount of \$200 for playground and park improvements at Pannaway Park – Voted to accept the \$200 donation to the City of Portsmouth from the Kane family.
19. First reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 7, Article XI, Section 7.1100 – Speed Limits – Buckminster Way – 20 MPH – Voted to pass first reading and hold a Public Hearing and second reading at the August 4th City Council meeting.

20. Third reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 5, International Fire Code; Chapter 12, International Building Code and Chapter 15, International Plumbing Code – Voted to pass third and final reading.

21. Third reading Amendments to Chapter 7 – Vehicle, Traffic Parking (Omnibus Parking Ordinance April 20, 2002 – April 17, 2003

- Chapter 7, Article VI, Section 7.601 – Truck Loading/Unloading Zones Established
- Chapter 7, Article III, Section 7.327 – Limited Parking – Two Hours – Bridge Street: both sides from Hanover Street to Deer Street
- Chapter 7, Article III, Section 7.329 – Limited Parking – Four Hours – Bridge Street: southerly side from Islington Street to Hanover Street
- Chapter 7, Article IV, Section 7.402 – Areas Established, Designated, and Described – Bridge Street Off-Street Parking Area
- Chapter 7, Article III, Section 7.326 – Limited Parking – Fifteen Minutes – Deer Street: Two spaces in front of the building located at 28 Deer Street
- Chapter 7, Article III, Section 7.327 – Limited Parking – Two Hours – Deer Street: all except for two spaces in front of 28 Deer Street

Voted to pass third and final reading of the actions to be incorporated into the Parking Ordinance, as presented.

22. Third reading of Ordinance amending Chapter 7 – Vehicles, Traffic Parking, Section 7.904 – Summons Administration Fee, Section 7.1004 – Towing and Immobilization of Motor Vehicles for Non-Payment of Parking Fines and Section 7.901 – Penalties – Voted to pass third and final reading.

23. Letter from Wendy Lull, Seacoast Science Center, requesting permission to hold its 7th annual Pond Boat Regatta on Sunday, August 24th in the South Mill Pond – Voted to refer to the City Manager with power.

24. Renewal Sidewalk Obstruction License – Chamber of Commerce – 1 A-frame sign – Voted to refer to the City Manager with power.

25. Letter from Sandra Plummer requesting permission to purchase property on Barberry Lane, Map 233, Lot 133 – Voted to refer to the Planning Board for a report back.

26. Letter from Carol Lee, Arthritis Foundation, requesting permission to hold its annual Jingle Bell Run on Saturday, November 22nd at 10:00 a.m. – Voted to refer to the City Manager with power.

27. Letter from Michael and Jacqui Bryan, requesting permission to hold the New Hampshire Seacoast Run Pedal Paddle race on Saturday, September 20, 2003 – Voted to table the request until the August 4th City Council meeting in order for the City Manager to receive additional information regarding the event.
28. Letter from Jody Brenemas, G. Willikers, requesting permission to hold the 2nd annual “School Bus Story Hour” on Market Street, Sunday, August 10, 2003 from 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Voted to refer to the City Manager with power.
29. Letter from Walter Allen regarding mandatory recycling program – Voted to accept and place the letter on file.
30. Letter from Steve Wells, COAST, regarding trolley service to Portsmouth Regional Hospital – Voted to refer to City Manager Bohenko and Parking and Transportation Director Burke for a report back.
31. Request for Sidewalk Obstruction License – Cobble Hill – 1 A-frame sign – Voted to table the request for a report back regarding location of sign.
32. Request from the School Board for Approval of the Proposed Amendments to the Employment Agreement of Dr. Lyonel B. Tracy, Superintendent of Schools – Voted to approve the proposed amendments to the Employment Agreement of Dr. Lyonel B. Tracy, Superintendent of Schools.
33. Report Back Re: Ocean Road – Voted to authorize the City Manager to proceed with Alternative #2 as presented.

Alternative #2

City Ownership, Responsibility and Control

Under this scenario, ownership of the road would transfer from the State to the City by legislative act and State/City Agreement. The City would re-engineer Ocean Road to City standards as a residential urban collector roadway. Such standards would provide for narrower lanes and shoulder widths, lower speed limits, new sidewalks, street trees, and pedestrian crossings. Traffic calming measures, such as “necking down” intersections, constructing modern-day round-a-bouts at certain intersections, and other measures to impede truck use and lower speeds could be employed.

As stated earlier, enforcement and education would complement the engineering solution. The roadway would need to be posted to restrict truck traffic to “Local Delivery Only.” U.S. Route 1 between Ocean Road and the Portsmouth Traffic Circle would need to be posted as a State-Designated Truck Route (NH DOT recently initiated the U.S. 1 Bypass Project to eliminate remaining bottlenecks along

this stretch – including the Portsmouth Traffic Circle). Peverly Hill Road may also need to be posted and enforced for “Local Delivery Only.” Regional trucking companies and businesses would be contacted and requested to direct customers and freight shipments to use Route 1 instead of Ocean Road and Peverly Hill Road.

It is recommended that any transfer of ownership from the State to the City should be conditional on the State providing:

1. 80% Federal funding for the design and upgrade of the roadway to City Standards; and
2. 10% State funding for the design and upgrade of just the roadway and drainage system.

The City would be responsible for only 10% of the total project cost, which would be used for constructing City required sidewalks, traffic calming measures and landscaping.

The estimated total design and construction cost to upgrade Ocean Road to City standards is \$1.8 Million. Under this proposal, the City’s contribution would be \$180,000. The earliest possible construction date based on federal funding constraints is FY 2007. A potential implementation schedule is provided below:

POTENTIAL IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE

DATE	ACTION	TOTAL COST	CITY COST
Fall 2003	City/State Agreement to Transfer Ownership of Ocean Road		
2004	City develops conceptual plans to convert Ocean Road to a City Street	\$60,000	\$0 (Federal planning funds available)
July 1, 2005	City assumes ownership of Ocean Road		
2005/2006	Engineering Design & ROW acquisition	\$300,000	\$30,000
2007/2008	Construction	\$1.5 M	\$150,000

The Public Works Department estimates the annual cost to maintain Ocean Road at \$25,000 per year. The Police Department estimates the cost for a selected enforcement program targeted at Ocean Road and Peverly Hill Road at \$10,000/year.

34. Donations from the Town of Newington in the amount of \$4,000, the Town of Sunapee in the amount of \$5,000 and the Town of Hebron in the amount of \$500 for the Coalition Legal Fund – Voted to accept the \$4,000 contribution from the Town of Newington, \$5,000 from the Town of Sunapee and \$500 from the Town of Hebron to be placed in the Coalition Legal Fund.
35. Consideration of Appointment – The City Council considered the reappointment of Eileen Foley to the Trustees of the Trust Funds. This appointment will be voted on at the August 4th City Council meeting.
36. Appointment – Voted to appoint Sandra Dika as an alternate to the Historic District Commission until June 1, 2006. Sandra is filling the expired term of Maija Hibbard.
37. Reports – Mayor Sirrell announced that the Tall Ship Providence would be in Portsmouth from July 16th – July 23rd.
38. City Manager's Evaluation – Voted to accept the evaluation as presented.
39. Traffic & Safety Committee Action Sheet and Minutes of the June 19, 2003 meeting – Voted to accept and approve the Traffic & Safety Committee action sheet and minutes of the June 19, 2003 meeting.
40. Parking Committee Action Sheet and Minutes of the June 19, 2003 meeting – Voted to accept and approve the Parking Committee action sheet and minutes of the June 19, 2003 meeting.
41. Adjournment – At 9:40 p.m., voted to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted:
Kelli L. Barnaby, City Clerk