

PARKING and TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
CITY HALL, MUNICIPAL COMPLEX, 1 JUNKINS AVENUE

*Members of the public also had the opportunity to join the meeting via
Zoom*

8:30 AM

March 6th, 2025

AGENDA

I. CALL TO ORDER

Councilor Andrew Bagley called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM.

II. ATTENDANCE

Members Present:

Chairman Andrew Bagley
Public Works Director Peter Rice
Fire Chief William McQuillen
Deputy Police Chief Mike Maloney
Stephanie Casella, Planning Department
Vice Chairwoman Erica Wygonik
Jane Mitchell-Pate
Mark Syracuse
Mary Lou McElwain

Members Absent:

Dave Allen (alternate)

City Staff Present:

Ben Fletcher, Parking Director
Mike Casad, Parking General Foreman
Jefferson Lane, DPW Administrative Assistant II

III. FINANCIAL REPORT

[00:05:35] Public Works Director Peter Rice moved to accept the financial report dated January 31st, 2025, seconded by Mark Syracuse. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (15 MINUTES)

[00:06:01] There were two speakers: Tyler Garzo of 62 McKinley Road spoke regarding the Capital Improvement Plan, citing how 10% of the plan is car-specific. Garzo noted driving causes 60% of Portsmouth's greenhouse gas emissions, as well as how ~~10%~~ 20% of the population does not drive. He urged the committee to find ways to de-emphasize driving in future planning. Patrick Lavoie, owner of a barbershop at 295 Maplewood Avenue, introduced his case to create a driveway to the building close to the intersection of Maplewood Avenue and Marsh Lane.

V. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

(No public comment during Committee discussion without Committee approval.)

There were no new items this month.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. [00:07:39] 293 Maplewood Avenue, driveway permit request, by resident. Vice Chairwoman Erica Wygonik motioned to place the item on file for discussion purposes, seconded by Mary Lou McElwain. The was discussion regarding the safety and logistics of a new driveway, primarily whether there's ample room without street interference, as well as maintaining the sight distance of Maplewood Avenue from the intersection with Marsh Lane. Mary Lou McElwain introduced an amendment to the original motion, moving to recommend approval for construction of a driveway at the proposed location. This motion was seconded by Jane Mitchell-Pate. Peter Rice introduced a friendly amendment to the motion, citing consideration of greenery near the intersection as a visual cue for motorists, seconded by Erica Wygonik. Following discussion, Rice rescinded his friendly amendment. Chairman Bagley requested a roll call vote. The motion passed 7-2, with Fire Chief Bill McQuillen and Public Works Director Peter Rice voting against the motion.

B. [00:41:40] Bow Street, request to remove parking space to allow for monument for Royal Governor Benning Wentworth tomb, by Portsmouth Historical Society. Peter Rice moved to place the item on file, seconded by Erica Wygonik. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. INFORMATIONAL

A. [00:46:43] Police monthly accident report

B. [00:49:53] Outdoor dining season

IX. MISCELLANEOUS

[00:50:10] Chairman Bagley circled back on the Broad Street traffic calming measures from February's meeting, citing that previously mentioned methods were out of the purview for PTS. Bagley sought input from Chief McQuillen and Deputy Chief Maloney on the idea of turning Broad Street into a dead end, and the impact that could have on emergency operations. Jane Mitchell-Pate inquired about parking access to doors on Bow Street belonging to St. John's Episcopal Church. Mary Lou McElwain asked for any updates regarding a committee item from 2024 regarding the installation of a stop sign on Marston Avenue at South Street. Jane Mitchell-Pate asked about the need for a site visit to Broad Street regarding traffic calming

X. ADJOURNMENT

[00:55:20] Erica Wygonik moved to adjourn, seconded by Mary Lou McElwain. The motion passed unanimously. Chairman Bagley adjourned the meeting at 9:20 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jefferson Lane
Administrative Assistant II, Department of Public Works