

**PARKING and TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**  
**PORTSMOUTH, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**ROOM 1**  
**SENIOR ACTIVITY CENTER, 125 COTTAGE STREET**

*Members of the public also had the option to join the meeting over Zoom*

**6:30 PM**

**February 2, 2023**

**MINUTES**

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Andrew Bagley called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**II. ATTENDANCE**

Members Present:

Chairman Andrew Bagley  
Steve Pesci  
Erica Wygonik (Alternate)  
Public Works Director Peter Rice  
City Manager Karen Conard  
Deputy Police Chief Mike Maloney  
Mary Lou McElwain  
Mark Syracuse  
Fire Chief William McQuillen

Absent

Harold Whitehouse

City Staff Present:

Parking Director Ben Fletcher  
City Engineer – Parking, Transportation and Planning Eric Eby  
Associate Engineer Tyler Reese

[00:03:07] Chairman Bagley reminded the public commenters that there will be a separate public meeting on February 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss Woodbury Avenue traffic calming at the New Franklin School, 6:30 P.M.

### III. FINANCIAL REPORT

[00:04:28] Karen Conard moved to accept the Financial Report dated December 31, 2022, and place it on file, seconded by Mary-Lou McElwain. **On a unanimous vote, motion passed 9-0.**

### IV. PUBLIC COMMENT (15 MINUTES)

This is the time for all comments on any of the agenda items or non-agenda items.

[00:05:13] There were sixteen speakers: Liza Hewitt, Roy Helsel, Paul Mannle, Rick Becksted, Stephen Parsons, and Meghan Parks (Z) spoke regarding speed limits on Middle Road and Islington Street. Justin Richardson and Lenore Weiss Bronson spoke regarding traffic calming on Woodbury Avenue. Francesca Marconi-Fernald spoke regarding camper parking. Ann Cummings spoke regarding speeds on Sagamore Avenue. Thomas Gross spoke regarding Dennett Street visibility and speeds. Elizabeth Bratter spoke regarding 25mph speed limits, traffic signals, overnight campers, and residential parking. Stephen Stavis spoke requesting 15-minute parking for Hearth Food Garden. Robin Husslage spoke regarding residential parking and speeds on Islington Street. Petra Huda spoke regarding the parking garage financials, Hearth Food Garden, and Woodbury Ave. Esther Kennedy spoke in favor of 25mph speed limits for all streets.

### VI. NEW BUSINESS

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

### V. PRESENTATIONS

None

### VI. NEW BUSINESS

- A. [00:47:35] Sagamore Avenue, speed reduction measures request, by resident. Peter Rice moved to refer to staff for evaluation and report back, seconded by Karen Conard. **Motion passed on a unanimous vote, 9-0.**
- B. [00:48:20] Daniel Street, request for 15-minute space for Hearth Food Garden, by business owner. Mary Lou McElwain made a motion to table the request for further evaluation, seconded by Peter Rice. **Motion passed on a unanimous vote, 9-0.**

### VII. OLD BUSINESS

- A. [00:52:56] Overnight camping on City streets and property, proposed draft ordinance to restrict. Mark Syracuse made a motion to refer back to Legal for re-evaluation and

further study. Seconded by Mary Lou McElwain. **On unanimous vote, motion passed 9-0.**

- B. [00:59:00] Woodbury Avenue traffic calming, introduction of proposed plan for section between Rockingham Avenue and Echo Avenue. Peter Rice moved to continue discussion at next month's meeting, obtain feedback at public meeting with neighborhood, seconded by Karen Conard. **Motion passed on a unanimous vote, 9-0.**
- C. [01:02:27] Dennett Street, request for traffic calming, by resident. The primary area of interest for traffic calming on Dennett Street is in the vicinity of the Thornton Street and Hunter's Hill intersection. Peter Rice made a motion to have staff study and report back, seconded by Mark Syracuse. **Motion passed on a unanimous vote, 9-0.**
- D. [01:03:46] Islington Street, Middle Road speed limit trials 6 month report back. Tyler Reece presented the findings of the speed studies on Islington Street and Middle Road. Peter Rice made a motion to continue the pilot speed limits until the working group reviews and reports back on speed limits citywide, seconded by Mark Syracuse. **On a unanimous vote, motion passed 9-0.**
- E. [01:29:00] Maplewood Avenue pedestrian signal phasing at Congress, Hanover, and Deer Street. Karen Conard moved to place item on file, seconded by Peter Rice. **Motion passed on a unanimous vote, 9-0.** Mr. Rice noted, however, that we would see if we could make an adjustment to the signage or make the pedestrian lights more visible.

## VIII. INFORMATIONAL

- A. [01:33:56] Monthly Accident Report from Police.
- B. [01:35:46] Bartlett Street at Thornton Street mini-roundabout design. Eric Eby presented the design for the temporary, trial mini-roundabout design.
- C. [01:37:24] Sagamore Avenue bike lane status update from Eric Eby.
- D. [01:38:17] Services provided or supported by parking revenues. Ben Fletcher spoke regarding how the parking revenues are used.

## IX. MISCELLANEOUS

- A. Suggestions for new name of Committee, to incorporate all modes of transportation. The Committee welcomes suggestions from the public.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

Karen Conard moved to adjourn at 8:14 P.M., seconded by Peter Rice. **On a unanimous vote, motion passed 9-0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Leila Birr

Administrative Assistant Department of Public Works