



City of Keene
New Hampshire

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES,
FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE
COMMITTEE
AGENDA
Council Chambers B
September 13, 2017
6:00 PM**

Janis O. Manwaring
Randy L. Filiault
Robert J. O'Connor
Stephen L. Hooper
Gary P. Lamoureux

-
1. Department Presentation - Fleet Division - Rolling, Rolling, Rolling
 2. Department Presentation - Solid Waste Division - The Evolving Ton
 3. Petition - 50 Signatures - Extending Walk Signal of Traffic Lights
 4. Friends of Open Space - Creation of a Pocket Park - City Property - 238 Church Street
 5. Request for Letter/Resolution- ATV Use on Rail Trails - Planning Department
 6. Beaver Street Speed Complaint Follow Up - Police Department
 7. Key Road Speed Bump Request - Police Department
 8. Relating to Yield Signs - Public Works Department
Ordinance O-2017-14

MORE TIME ITEMS:

- A. Driveway Code Review
- B. Reconstruction of the City Roadways and the Addition of Sidewalk Construction to Reconstruction Projects - Council Policy

Non Public Session
Adjournment



Transmittal Form

August 14, 2017

TO: Mayor and Keene City Council

FROM: Terri Croteau

THROUGH: Patricia A. Little, City Clerk

ITEM: 3.

SUBJECT: Petition - 50 Signatures - Extending Walk Signal of Traffic Lights

COUNCIL ACTION:

In City Council September 7, 2017.

Referred to Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee and Downtown Revitalization Committee.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Petition - Signal Lights

BACKGROUND:

Terri Croteau has acquired 50 signatures on a petition asking that the walk signal be extended for several traffic signals at various intersections in the City.

8-11-2017

To whom it may concern

this is my petition of 50 signatures
for the fixing of the signal lights
of west st, Billdo Ave + winchesters
Please keep them on longer so that
when people are crossing, they don't
get hit.

Signed
Terri Croteau

P.S. Cell phone no
603-400-7037

29 Sparrow St., Keene

In City Council September 7, 2017.
Referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and
Infrastructure Committee and the Downtown
Revitalization Committee.

William S. Dow

Deputy City Clerk

RECEIVED
CITY OF KEENE

AUG 11 2017

OFFICE OF
CITY CLERK

Petition for signal crossing light

Petition

Carol Travers -
 Eileen Ross
~~[Signature]~~
~~[Signature]~~
 Bebe N. Bena
 Rubia Tordella
 Jenni Watson
 Charles Damont
 Anne J. High
 Donna Eyles
 Lisa Taylor
 Cheryl Singer
~~[Signature]~~
 Louise Bethge
 Bruce Puid
 Lori LaBrake
 Barbara Pierce
~~[Signature]~~
 Betty Allandee
 Rick Blood
~~[Signature]~~
 Patricia L. Betts
 Sue Brady
 DAVE HAMMOND
 Patricia M. Sumotte
 Roy Derby

Bruce
 Nancy Beine
 Mary Griffith
 Leonard No
 Pam Nye
 Thomas Keck
 Diane S. Kelly
 Kathleen Waters
 Betty Marlett
 Debby Clark-Zarbox
 Dan L. LaPoint
 Jeanette Gilman
 Bob Simmons
 Danielle Webb
 Arden DeBlanc
 Nyomi Patterson
~~[Signature]~~
 (Mrs. Youngman)
~~[Signature]~~
 Erin
 Kerro Pessner
 Susan M. Sielke
 Jeff Trebbe
~~[Signature]~~
 Anna M. Hutchins
 Sandra Beare



Transmittal Form

August 7, 2017

TO: Mayor and Keene City Council

FROM: Eloise Clark and Margaret Kasschau

THROUGH: Patricia A. Little, City Clerk

ITEM: 4.

SUBJECT: Friends of Open Space - Creation of a Pocket Park - City Property - 238 Church Street

COUNCIL ACTION:

In City Council September 7, 2017.

Referred to Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

RECOMMENDATION:

This communication on behalf of Friends of Open Space in Keene is requesting the consideration of a pocket park on City property at 238 Church Street. This was the former site of the Kiser's Orthotic and Prosthetic services. The building was removed in the summer of 2016.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Communication - Friends of Open Space in Keene - Pocket Park - 238 Church Street

In City Council September 7, 2017.

Referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.



William S. Tow

Deputy City Clerk

PO Box 255 Keene, NH 03431

Mayor Kendall W. Lane
Keene City Hall
3 Washington St.
Keene, NH 03431

Dear Mayor Lane,

We the undersigned are members of the Board of Friends of Open Space in Keene. Our organization would like to work with Keene City staff to create a pocket park on City owned property at 238 Church St. We see this as a way to enhance the lot and neighborhood after the building, which originally housed Kiser's Orthotic and Prosthetic services, was removed in summer 2016.

We have a preliminary design and propose to raise the funds for the purchase of 4 four-foot benches, two trees and a number of shrubs.

Thank you for sending our proposal through the appropriate City committees to get approval to move ahead with this project.

Sincerely yours,

Eloise Clark

Eloise Clark, President
1185 Roxbury Rd.
352-9182

Margaret Kasschau

Margaret Kasschau
40 North Lincoln St.
352-4390



City of Keene, N.H.
Transmittal Form

September 7, 2017

TO: Mayor and Keene City Council

FROM: Will Schoefmann, Mapping Technician

ITEM: 5.

SUBJECT: Request for Letter/Resolution- ATV Use on Rail Trails - Planning Department

COUNCIL ACTION:

In City Council September 7, 2017.

Referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

RECOMMENDATION:

The following is the motion from the Bicycle Pedestrian Path Advisory Committee's regular meeting on August 9, 2017:

"Mr. Redfern moved to recommend that City Council write a letter requesting that federal guidelines for ATV use on New Hampshire's Improved rail trails remain unchanged with regards to Senator Shaheen's amendment to allow them. Mr. Little seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote."

The following is the motion from the Conservation Commission's regular meeting on August 21, 2017:

"Councilor Hansel made a motion for the Conservation Commission to support a resolution opposing ATV use on the Cheshire and Ashuelot Rail Trails in Keene, NH. The motion was seconded by Mr. Madison and carried unanimously."

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Resolution - ATV Use on Rail Trails Regarding Senator Shaheen's recent amendment to Federal Highway Guidelines

BACKGROUND:

Bicycle Pedestrian Path Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes:

New Business

Mr. Redfern stated that the Keene Federal Congressional Delegation, Senator Jeanne Shaheen has put in an amendment to the appropriations bill to allow ATVs on the trails if there is an economic value to the activity.

He requested that organizations submit letters of concern (e.g. Pathways of Keene, Healthy Monadnock, BPPAC, etc.) about this bill because the law currently prohibits it. He stated that Keene built the trails and they will not last two years if ATVs are allowed to ride them. He said he is looking for letters of support and will send templates by email to the committee to speak out against the amendment. He emphasized that years of

work is at jeopardy in two seasons if ATVs are allowed to utilize trails.

Mr. Little stated that if snow is on the ground the ATVs are treated as snowmobiles and allowed on the trails. He said he researched the issue and discovered the top speed is 90 mph, which is alarming. He suggested BPPAC put in a motion to City Council against including ATVs on multiuse trails. He stated is in full support of the way in which Keene is handling the situation and perhaps BPPAC should recommend that City Council take action beyond a letter. Mr. Schoefman said the BPPAC is advisory to City Council so the motion would involve making a motion to City Council to recommend not changing the current policy.

Chair Rubin motioned to write a letter to City Council requesting that federal guidelines on ATV use on New Hampshire's rail trails be upheld with regard to Senator Shaheen's amendment. Mr. Little seconded and motion was passed by unanimous vote of the committee.

Conservation Commission Meeting Minutes:

-
Request for Support of Letter Related to Upholding Federal Guidelines for ATV Use on NH Rail Trails - Chuck Redfern

Chair Haynes welcomed Chuck Redfern, President of the NH Rail Trail Coalition, who provided a brief overview of this request. Mr. Redfern lives in Keene and he recalled that in 1993-1995 the City wanted a bike and pedestrian plan, which was completed by an Antioch University study group and some members of the Conservation Commission at that time. That group wanted members of the Commission to undertake activities related to Rail Trail development, but that was discouraged because Commission members already had a lot of work. With that, the City formed the Bicycle/Pedestrian Path Advisory Committee (BPPAC) in 1995; this was one year after Pathways for Keene was established to raise private funds for the trail system. In Keene, more than \$500,000 has been privately raised for the multi-million dollar Rail Trail system, 50% of which was federally allocated funds.

Mr. Redfern continued explaining this particularly urgent issue for the Rail Trail regarding ATV use. First, he explained that ATV's cause a lot of erosion problems, especially on the stone bridges; this happened 15 years ago and had to be repaired at a high cost. The City Manager of Claremont, NH requested a variance to allow ATV's on 1.8 miles of the Rail Trail; this variance was denied by the Federal Highway Administration because law states that ATV's are not allowed on federally funded trail systems. He shared the amendment from Senator Shaheen on motorized vehicles on trails at issue here, as a result of the Federal Highway Administration denial, which states:

“Balanced Consideration of Use-Exemption Requests for Trails – As the FHWA considers requests for exceptions under 23 U.S.C.217(h), the Committee encourages the agency to give due consideration to the local economy and community input. In particular, the agency should weigh the role motorized vehicles play in the local economy and should seek feedback from trail users.”

This amendment allows variances for allowance of ATV's not just on the states trail system, but across the nation. The agency, in this situation, would presumably be the Trails Bureau. Mr. Redfern continued that while snowmobiles are allowed on the Rail Trail because snow cover impedes erosion issues, to his knowledge the Trails Bureau is biased in favor of ATV's because they pay an approximately \$45 registration fee. He said he believes places like Jericho Park, which was established primarily for ATV use, are more appropriate than the Rail Trail. There are currently 1,200 trails available for ATV use in NH, while there is less than 200 miles of Rail Trail for biking, walking, and running. He noted that some ATV's can reach speeds of 90mph, while the average is 60mph; these high speeds pose safety and erosion concerns for the Rail Trail.

Because of this, the BPPAC has proposed a resolution for the City of Keene, which states:

A Resolution Opposing ATV's on the Cheshire and Ashuelot Rail Trails

Keene, New Hampshire

Whereas the City of Keene, NH has improved over seven miles of the Cheshire and Ashuelot Rail Trails within its borders that were assisted with Federal Funds and more length that is actively used by its residents for biking, walking, horseback riding and snowmobiling; and

Whereas use of these improved areas by ATV's would destroy the thin cover of crushed stone dust which makes the improved sections of trail unusable for these activities; and

Whereas for this reason and others, the use of ATV's of the Cheshire and Ashuelot Rail Trails is incompatible with the activities;

Now therefore we, the City Council of the City of Keene, NH, do hereby

Resolve that the City of Keene, NH opposes any modification in federal law that would allow ATV's on the Cheshire and Ashuelot Rail Trails and

Further Resolve that copies of this resolution be sent to each member of our congressional delegation.

Signed this day of August 2017 by the following members constituting all of the members of the City Council of the City of Keene, New Hampshire.

Mr. Redfern is opposed to ATV use on the Rail Trail in Keene because the City has worked hard raising money for the trail, which was not intended for ATV use. The BPPAC has prepared a position paper and petition that they hope to bring signed to Senator Shaheen. They are asking for a letter of support from the City of Keene or for City Council to consider an Ordinance based on the above resolution. He noted other matters of concern relevant to the Commission in addition to erosion are damage to slopes and sediment runoff from the rail beds. He hopes this resolution will pass into Ordinance because while the Council may support this effort now, a future City Council may not; there will be no going back and millions of dollars will have been wasted. He is also here for the residents of Keene because many portions of the Rail Trail pass by homes and through neighborhoods. A local variance/Ordinance is needed because the Trails Bureau will remain in favor of ATV use because of the subsidies they gain.

Councilor Hansel said in an ideal world the local community would decide how to best use trails and confirmed that is not an option in this case. Mr. Redfern replied the Trails Bureau has final say, over the recommendation of City Council; the ATV lobby is very powerful and supported nationwide. For example, there is the first annual nationwide conference for ATV's in Manchester, NH this week, which is coordinated by the Trails Bureau. He hopes the Trails bureau will be fair and let each community decide for itself, but for now the City needs to take the position of not allowing this variance beyond the current variance, for which the standards are high.

Councilor Hansel said to him it is clear the City Rail Trail system is not designed for ATV use and such use would compromise all the investment the City has made. He thinks the proposed resolution for City Council is strong because it focuses on the local trail system. He is uncomfortable dictating what other cities can do with their trails but it is clear that Keene should oppose this change to preserve its own investment.

Chair Haynes asked for clarification on what Mr. Redfern is asking from the Commission. Mr. Redfern replied that BPPAC was initially asking for a letter of support to have the amendment pulled from the report; because other communities have used resolutions, they think a resolution would be a much stronger message than a letter from the City Manager or Mayor.

Councilor Hansel made a motion for the Conservation Commission to support a resolution opposing ATV use

on the Cheshire and Ashuelot Rail Trails in Keene, NH, which was seconded by Councilor Manwaring and carried unanimously.

A Resolution Opposing ATV's on the Cheshire and Ashuelot Rail Trails
Keene, New Hampshire

Whereas the City of Keene, NH has improved over seven miles of the Cheshire and Ashuelot Rail Trails within its borders that were assisted with Federal Funds and more length that is actively used by its residents for biking, walking, horseback riding and snowmobiling; and

Whereas use of these improved areas by ATV's would destroy the thin cover of crushed stone dust which makes the improved sections of trail unusable for these activities; and

Whereas for this reason and others, the use of ATV's of the Cheshire and Ashuelot Rail Trails is incompatible with the activities;

Now therefore we, the City Council of the City of Keene, NH, do hereby

Resolve that the City of Keene, NH opposes any modification in federal law that would allow ATV's on the Cheshire and Ashuelot Rail Trails and

Further Resolve that copies of this resolution be sent to each member of our congressional delegation.

Signed this day of August 2017 by the following members constituting all of the members of the City Council of the City of Keene, New Hampshire.



City of Keene, N.H.
Transmittal Form

September 7, 2017

TO: Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee

FROM: Steven Russo, Police Chief

THROUGH: Medard Kopczynski, City Manager

ITEM: 6.

SUBJECT: Beaver Street Speed Complaint Follow Up - Police Department

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee accept this report as informational.

BACKGROUND:

In July 2017 a complaint concerning speeding was received by the City Council. The Police Department subsequently answered this complaint by presenting speed statistics, accident, and motor vehicle stop data, none of which supported taking further action. As part of this acceptance the Committee directed we spot monitor Beaver Street for speed or other motor vehicle issues. KPD has done this since then, maintaining speed radar signs off and on Beaver Street, as well as continuing directed patrols as resources allowed. The data so far collected has been the same, indicating that there is no substantial safety issues related to speed, nor any increase in motor vehicle accidents or violations.



City of Keene, N.H.
Transmittal Form

September 8, 2017

TO: Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee

FROM: Steven Russo, Police Chief

THROUGH: Medard Kopczynski, City Manager

ITEM: 7.

SUBJECT: Key Road Speed Bump Request - Police Department

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee recommend to City Council that this communication be accepted as informational.

BACKGROUND:

On June 12, 2017, the City Council received a communication from James J. Griffin of 195 Key Road requesting the placement of a speed bump on Key Road, just before the car wash, due to his concerns of speeding, drag racing, and noisy operators.

During August 2017, radar speed collection signs were placed at two locations on Key Road and directed patrols were conducted to gather information pertaining to this complaint. From 8/5/17 to 9/3/17, one vehicle was logged traveling over the 30MPH speed limit in either direction, and that speed was between 35-40MPH. Additionally, 36 directed patrols were conducted in the area as well as the normal patrols of the area. From 7/20/17, combined normal patrols and directed patrols made seven motor vehicle stops and issued two summonses and five warnings. An additional 11 site checks were made of the Key Road car wash and none found behavior indicated in this communication to the Council.

It is known by KPD that in the past this area, next to the car wash, had been used for "mudding" by some people. This behavior has not been seen in some time, but does not mean it does not still occur at times we are not actively patrolling the area. However, our recent monitoring of the area has not found this. Additionally, monitoring has shown that average car counts between 10:00PM and 4:00AM in this area on a Friday night was 32 cars and 31 for Saturday night. It is also possible that sounds may carry from Route 9/10/12 into this area.

This data leads us to recommend no changes in the traffic or speed pattern for the area.



City of Keene, N.H.
Transmittal Form

July 27, 2017

TO: Mayor and Keene City Council

FROM: Donald R. Lussier, P.E., City Engineer

THROUGH: Medard Kopczynski, City Manager

ITEM: 8.

SUBJECT: Relating to Yield Signs - Public Works Department

COUNCIL ACTION:

In City Council September 7, 2017.

Filed memorandum into the record.

Referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

RECOMMENDATION:

That City Council refer Ordinance O-2017-14 to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee for their review and recommendation.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Ordinance O-2017-14

BACKGROUND:

During its regularly scheduled meeting on July 26, 2017 the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee considered a request from a resident to install a stop sign at the intersection of Mountain View Drive and Darling Road. After due consideration of the request, and staff recommendation, the Committee voted unanimously to direct staff to draft an ordinance allowing for the installation of a Yield sign at this intersection.



CITY OF KEENE

O-2017-14

Seventeen

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and

AN ORDINANCE Relating to – Yield Signs

AN ORDINANCE

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Keene, as follows:

That the City Code of the City of Keene, New Hampshire, as amended is hereby further amended by adding the bolded Italic text to the following provisions in Article IV, "Specific Street Regulations", of Division 6, "Yield Streets", of Section 94-346 "Yield Signs" in Chapter 94, entitled "TRAFFIC, PARKING AND PUBLIC WAYS" as follows;

Sec. 94-346. – Yield signs.

In accordance with state law a yield right-of-way sign is hereby ordered erected and maintained at the intersection of the following public ways:

Mountain View Drive and Darling Road for eastbound traffic on Mountain View Drive.

Kendall W. Lane, Mayor

In City Council September 7, 2017.

Referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

William S. Bow
Deputy City Clerk