

COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE

MAY 26, 2021

A meeting of the Committee on Infrastructure was held Wednesday, May 26, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. via teleconference.

Chairman O'Brien

As Chairman of the Committee on Infrastructure, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that we are:

Providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by video or other electronic means:

To access Zoom, please refer to the agenda or the City's website for the meeting link.

To join by phone: 1-929-205-6099 Meeting ID: 851 5310 4060 Passcode: 442422

The public may also view the meeting via Channel 16.

We previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting, through public postings. Instructions have also been provided on the City of Nashua's website at www.nashuanh.gov and publicly noticed at City Hall and Nashua Public Library.

If anyone has a problem accessing the meeting via phone or Channel 16, please call 603-821-2049 and they will help you connect.

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting via the methods mentioned above, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled. Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by roll call vote.

Let's start the meeting by taking a roll call attendance. When each member states their presence, please also state whether there is anyone in the room with you during this meeting, which is required under the Right-To-Know Law.

Due to the absence this evening of our Clerk, I have asked the Administrative Assistant, the Liaison to the Aldermanic Board, Donna Graham, to assist in the Clerking of this meeting and I thank you for doing that. So, Ms. Graham, could you please call the roll?

The roll call was taken with 4 members of the Committee on Infrastructure present:

Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Ernest Jette
Alderman David C. Tencza

Members not in Attendance: Alderman Jan Schmidt

Also in Attendance: Alderman-at-Large Lori Wilshire
Alderman June M. Caron
Alderman Richard A. Dowd

ROLL CALL

Alderman O'Brien

Present in the Chamber.

Alderman Lopez

Present, you can see me.

Donna Graham, Legislative Affairs Manager

Alderman Jan Schmidt is absent. Alderman Ernest Jette.

Alderman Jette

I'm here alone and I am having a hard time hearing the proceedings, the volume is very low.

Ms. Graham

How is that, is that better?

Alderman Jette

Yes.

Ms. Graham

OK and Alderman David C. Tencza?

Alderman Tencza

I am present, I am alone and I can hear a little bit better. Thank you.

Chairman O'Brien

And also I have asked current Board President Lori Wilshire as Alderman-at-Large to be a de facto member of the Committee in the absence of Jan Schmidt who I am sure, she was ill, but is watching this on Channel 16. Hope you're feeling better, Alderman Schmidt. OK, also in attendance we have Kim Kleiner, I see. I have on our Agenda that we may be joined by Tim Cummings, Economic Development Director and Sarah Marchant, Community Development Director.

At this time we will go to Public Comment. Is there anybody from the public that would like to speak? I will remind the public that we are going to follow the procedure of 3 minutes. So at this time please indicate that you would like to speak and I will give you the opportunity to speak. We do have a hand raised by George. Could you state your name and identify yourself, please for the record?

PUBLIC COMMENT

Diana Lavash Hi, my name is Diana Lavash and I am presenting Corpus Christi Food Pantry and Assistance. We are requesting a handicap parking spot in front of our building. This would help. We have many elderly and disabled clients and it would just help them tremendously. For example, today we had someone with MS and she was elderly, on crutches and it is just difficult. The street gets filled up and it is hard for them to get a parking spot close to our building. So we hope you would kindly consider giving us at least one handicap parking spot in front of our building. Thank you very much.

Chairman O'Brien

OK, I thank you. Anybody else from the public that would like to speak? Attorney Prolman, could you state your name for the record sir?

Andrew Prolman, Attorney Prunier Prolman Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, Good Evening. My name is Andy Prolman, I am an attorney with Prunier & Prolman here in Nashua. And Mr. Chairman I am to speak to the first Resolution that is before you tonight, R-21-139. We have two easements being presented to the Board tonight and I can speak to them now or I can speak to them when the matter comes before the Board; either way is fine with me Mr. Chairman.

Chairman O'Brien

Yes, this is the opportunity for you to speak now.

Attorney Prolman OK fantastic. As a brief explanation, we are presenting two easements, we have – this is Phase II of the Renaissance at Nashua that was my client the Bridge Street Project. The Phase I of the project was built out a few years ago; those are the apartment buildings that we see by the Hudson Bridge at the confluence of the Nashua and Merrimack Rivers. For Phase I of the project we had a use and access agreement for Bancroft Street. We are now to Phase II of the project and we have a use and access agreement, the exact same agreement, for Sanders Street.

The project is going to be building on two lots on either side of Sanders Street and Bridge Street. The old John Mansfield site is one of the two lots that we are proposing 177 apartments. So we have the exact same easement that we had a few years back for Bancroft that we are proposing on Sanders Street tonight. In addition, the project is also proposing a bus stop easement. We, the developer, will be building a bump out for the future bus stop and we are granting the City and easement to build out a shelter when a bus route eventually makes its way on to Bridge Street.

So those are the two easements we have before the Board. We have the full support of the Business & Industry Development Authority. We have been working hand-in-hand with the IDA. We have the support of the Nashua Planning Board from last week and we are looking for a positive recommendation from this Committee to the Board of Aldermen when it comes before you. I am happy to answer any questions when the matter is before the Committee and I thank you for your time.

Chairman O'Brien

I thank you, Attorney Prolman. When the Resolution comes up I will allow or entertain a question. But Attorney Prolman what I just see is before this evening is only one, R-21-139 which is authorizing the bus pull off shelter easement on Bridge Street at Sanders Street.

Attorney Prolman

Mr. Chairman?

Chairman O'Brien

Yes.

Attorney Prolman The Resolution contained two easements; there's the bus stop easement and then there's the use easement on Sanders Street as well. There are two separate easements.

Chairman O'Brien

OK. Could you stand by Attorney Prolman as we investigate?

Attorney Prolman Of course, hi Diana.

Ms. Lavash How are you doing?

Attorney Prolman Long time.

Ms. Lavash I wish you went first.

Chairman O'Brien

Alright Mr. Prolman, you are correct, I was just reading what was on but I saw the OK from Mr. Sullivan. I know I am familiar with the whole complete project as part of our conversation earlier, so we are all set. Alright, thank you Attorney Prolman, I just wanted to make sure we had it correct.

Attorney Prolman Thank you.

Chairman O'Brien

Ok, anybody else from the public that would like to speak? Seeing none, Communications?

COMMUNICATIONS

From: Matthew Sullivan, Planning Manager

Re: Referral from the Board of Aldermen on proposed, R-21-139 – Authorizing the Bus Pull Off and Shelter Easement on Bridge Street and Temporary Construction Easement Agreement on Sanders Street

There being no objection, Chairman O'Brien accepted the communication and placed it on file.

PETITIONS - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

NEW BUSINESS – RESOLUTIONS

R-21-139

Endorsers: Alderman Jan Schmidt
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.
Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright

AUTHORIZING THE BUS PULL OFF AND SHELTER EASEMENT ON BRIDGE STREET AND TEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION EASEMENT AND USE EASEMENT AGREEMENT ON SANDERS STREET

MOTION BY ALDERMAN LOPEZ TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman O'Brien

Any discussion on the motion? Alderman Lopez.

Alderman Lopez

If I can ask a question through the Chair to Diane?

Chairman O'Brien

Yes, you may.

Alderman Lopez

So this is a handicap spot, I know Corpus Christi...

Chairman O'Brien

No, this is an easement, sorry Alderman Lopez, not to cut you off but this is for Sanders Street and Bridge Street, the bus pull off, what Attorney Prolman

Alderman Lopez

OH yeah I got them ... my mistake.

Chairman O'Brien

Yeah, no it's coming up. I'm sorry, do you still have a question Alderman Lopez?

Alderman Lopez

No but I would also to clarify that I know understand the motion that I just made.

Chairman O'Brien

And I appreciate that, thank you Alderman Lopez. OK, any other further discussion on the motion? Seeing none, would the Clerk please call the roll?

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Lopez,
Alderman Jette, Alderman Tencza,
Alderman Wilshire

5

Nay:

0

MOTION CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS – ORDINANCES**O-21-062**

Endorsers: Alderman June M. Caron
Alderman Richard A. Dowd
Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright
Alderman-at-Large Michael B. O'Brien, Sr.

ESTABLISHING A HANDICAPPED PARKING SPACE IN FRONT OF 3 CROWN STREET**MOTION BY ALDERMAN LOPEZ TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE BY ROLL CALL**ON THE QUESTIONChairman O'Brien

Alderman Caron, would you like to speak to this motion?

Alderman Caron

Yes, thank you. The Corpus Christi Group had contacted me concerning the lack of parking for handicapped people who are going to the facility to pick up groceries and what have you. As you know, Crown Street is kind of narrow, the parking there a lot of people do park on that street during the day so it kind of limits where they can park and walk. As Diane mentioned, if someone has crutches or has a hard time walking, it just makes it very difficult for them. So this is why we put in for at least one handicapped parking space so that they would be able to take care of their clients in a smooth and careful way. And I thank you for allowing me to speak.

Chairman O'Brien

Thank you Alderman Caron. Alderman Lopez, would you like to speak?

Alderman Lopez

Yeah I just have a question for Diane, through the Chair? With regards to the activities that Corpus Christi does, I know they run a pantry but they also run other things too such as consultation services and some case management. Is handicap space the most ideal for this or would you think a loading zone might also be something we should look at where you can have multiple cars come in and out.

Ms. Lavash I didn't hear the end of that statement, the volume is very low.

Alderman Lopez

Do you think that a single handicap space is adequate for what you need or would we want to look at a loading zone where cars could be coming and going, but would have to be loading or unloading? Because I can see somewhere parking for Case Management and needing to go inside and stay but I can also see lots of people needing to pull up and get things loaded or unloaded.

Ms. Lavash Well we would eventually we were hoping to get a few restricted hour parking spots in front of the building. We are only open like 2 ½ hours Monday and Wednesday morning and 2 ½ hours Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. And yes, we would, I guess there's a parking survey...

Alderman Caron

Study.

Ms. Lavash Yeah go ahead June.

Alderman Caron

When Diane spoke to me today, she mentioned that they were looking something more down the road and at this point, they are doing the parking study and I don't think until we hear from them, which is supposed to be in the next month or so, I don't think we should be adding in things that we may have to turn around and take out. I'd like to see how this handicap parking works for them and then we can go from there if we need to add anything, loading and unloading might not be a bad idea but I think we really need to look at this as a first step. I am sorry Chairman O'Brien, I didn't mean to cut in.

Chairman O'Brien

No, it was duly appropriate, explained a lot thank you.

Ms. Lavash We would appreciate a few more spots and we are only open limited hours, it's not like an 8 to 5 or 24 hours, you know? We are trying to work with the neighbors, you know, But we thought we would go through this method to get an official sign and everything.

Chairman O'Brien

OK Alderman Lopez, do you have a further comment?

Alderman Lopez

Just a comment, yeah. That makes sense. I was just trying to make sure that a resident who is handicapped doesn't just park there and then occupy the space that you are looking for because the handicap space can be used by anybody who is handicapped if what you were really looking for was a loading zone. But, as Alderman Caron has pointed out, she has a specific interest in this, she is the Ward Aldermen, so I will defer to her.

Chairman O'Brien

Actually I am going to refer to both. I see the prime sponsor is Alderman Caron so Alderman Caron can you work with Alderman Lopez too and just to make sure when the parking study comes out, because I totally agree with you, let's conquer that animal first and then we can perhaps look at this in a better, fresher light and see what we can do with that. So to make sure it doesn't slip off the stove and it is still on the burner, if you two could work together, I would much appreciate for the Committee. OK?

Alderman Caron

Sure, I have no problem with that.

Alderman Lopez

I wasn't looking to try to run anything in Alderman Caron's Ward. We are just adding a handicap parking space so we are doing that before the study but we are doing it because the Ward Alderman believes that is important and that's a position I've taken pretty regularly. So I am going to support Alderman Caron's wishes on this.

Chairman O'Brien

Of course. The reason I designated you though, you are my Vice Chair.

Alderman Lopez

Alright, I'll do my job.

Chairman O'Brien

So I am relying on your expertise.

Alderman Lopez

I am all about handicaps.

Chairman O'Brien

Alright thank you Alderman Lopez.

Alderman Caron

Thanks for your support Alderman Lopez,

Chairman O'Brien

Alright, we have the motion by Alderman Lopez for final passage. Any other further discussion on the motion? Seeing none, would the Clerk, please call the roll?

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea:	Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Lopez, Alderman Jette, Alderman Tencza Alderman Wilshire	5
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Nay:		0
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MOTION CARRIED

O-21-063

Endorser: Alderman Jan Schmidt

ESTABLISHING A NO PARKING ZONE ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF NEWTON DRIVE

MOTION BY ALDERMAN LOPEZ TO RECOMMEND FINAL PASSAGE BY ROLL CALL

ON THE QUESTION

Chairman O'Brien

Unfortunately, due to the absence due to illness of Alderman Schmidt, what is up with this particular item is there is like a pump / sewer station facility on Newton Drive. Those people of the neighborhood do realize that there is some parking concerns. But what is happening is people are using the space in front of the pump station to park thus making it difficult for municipal crews to get into the facility and to maintain the structure. So what they are looking it to establish a no parking zone on the southside of Newton Drive so that they can access this particular facility. Any other further comment on the motion? Alderman Wilshire?

Alderman Wilshire

Yes, I know the parking situation over there quite well. How many parking spaces are we taking here?

Chairman O'Brien

It is not much, do you have the packet? It is on Newton Drive South, beginning at a point 235 feet east of Coliseum Ave. and extending easterly 20 feet.

Alderman Wilshire

That doesn't help me.

Chairman O'Brien

And if I really knew when I was savvy, in the old days I could bring up the GIS Map. I am not there yet, so I apologize.

Alderman Wilshire

That's OK. Thank you.

Chairman O'Brien

However, like I say this seemed to come in by one of our municipal things like I say, Engineer Dan Hudson. Usually I like to try to honor their requests because the process for the overall good and I am sure you agree?

Alderman Wilshire

Yes.

Chairman O'Brien

That they need to access this facility. But that does not limit us from taking a look at it and I understand what you are saying. The people of that community there is a parking problem. So if that is the case and it becomes burdensome, I think we can take another peek at this, you know? We can get this going and it may be a good start and if it needs modification, we can probably revisit it. And I will have that discussion with Mr. Hudson at a later date. Further comment on the motion? Alderman Lopez, sorry I was looking at the TV screen but you're right in front of me.

Alderman Lopez

So is the parking study even covering this area or is that irrelevant.

Chairman O'Brien

I don't think this is within the perusal of the parking study because if you are familiar with the Newton Drive, it is private property.

Alderman Lopez

OK.

Chairman O'Brien

And the situation is there is an apartment complex, it's right – so the people who aren't familiar – Newton Drive runs right behind the Broad Street Home Depot, opposite Hannaford's sort to speak. I am sure it is a

municipal street but the parking lot and the facility are under private ... I don't know how much municipal control, we do have access in via Newton Drive. And the municipal building that they are talking about is right on the corner there, right after you swing on to Newton Drive, you can see the facility that they are talking about, adjacent to the Nashua River. And again, I think Ms. Graham is going to get me savvy in the future so I'll be able to bring up GIS so we can ... wait 'til I learn to run this show.

Alderman Lopez

I was wondering about this.

Chairman O'Brien

Doesn't anybody miss the projector screen coming down?

Alderman Lopez

I can plug my laptop in.

Chairman O'Brien

It's just a wire, just leave it alone, don't stick it in your mouth or anything, you know.

Alderman Lopez

I learned that long ago.

Chairman O'Brien

Alright. Any other questions Alderman Lopez?

Alderman Lopez

No, thank you.

Chairman O'Brien

Alright, thank you sir. Thank you very much. Alright, any other further comment by Aldermen? OK seeing none, would the Clerk please call the roll?

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Lopez,
Alderman Jette, Alderman Tencza,
Alderman Wilshire

5

Nay:

0

MOTION CARRIED

TABLED IN COMMITTEE

Chairman O'Brien

Looking right now, I don't see anything that is going to be removed from the table.

O-20-004

Endorsers: Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderman Linda Harriott-Gathright

ALLOWING PERMITTED OVERNIGHT ON-STREET PARKING ON EIGHTH STREET

- Tabled at 2/26/20 meeting

O-20-006

Endorsers: Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Patricia Klee
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderwoman Linda Harriott-Gathright

ALLOWING PERMITTED OVERNIGHT ON-STREET PARKING ON A PORTION OF PRESCOTT STREET

- Tabled at 2/26/20 meeting

O-20-032

Endorsers: Alderman-at-Large Brandon Laws
Alderman Thomas Lopez
Alderman Jan Schmidt
Alderman Skip Cleaver
Alderwoman-at-Large Shoshanna Kelly
Alderwoman Elizabeth Lu

REDUCING THE FINE FOR OVERNIGHT PARKING VIOLATIONS

- Tabled at 10/28/20 meeting

PUBLIC COMMENT - None

Chairman O'Brien

Public Comment. Does anybody from the public, this is the second opportunity if anybody wishes to speak; again the 3 minute advisory limit? Seeing no one, we will move to Remarks by Aldermen.

REMARKS BY THE ALDERMEN

Alderman Lopez

So as everybody here knows, we rescinded the mask ordinance yesterday at midnight. There were recommendations, we do support the rights of businesses to make rules on their own property as to how they are going to manage that. Among the recommendations, is if you are going to make a rule that anybody has to wear a mask, you should make it so that everybody has to wear the mask. Masks are still required when using public transportation, which is why I am wearing this, for the bus. And we don't have any real like the School Board is in charge of schools so that's not part of the mask ordinance anyway. So I just want to keep letting people know that so there isn't any kind of confusion.

And then additionally the upcoming Memorial Day, I hope people are paying attention to the street on Factory Street. But if they also see the barriers as they happen to travel by, they are noticing that they are getting covered in stars and stripes and patriotic types of images. That is being done by the Boys & Girls Club, with Christian and Operation Enduring Welcome. Alderman Jette and myself and some others helped get that supported. And it's just one of the things we are trying to do to support Veterans during Memorial Day. On the reverse side of the barriers from the street, if you are walking along the street, for example if you are a Veteran living at Dalianis House walking down the street, there are encouraging messages from the kids for

the Veterans that are there.

And then additionally, we as Aldermen did move forward with renaming the Broad Street Parkway to Veteran's Memorial Parkway. So there is not a parade, the parade organizers were not comfortable trying to organize such an event without being sure that there would be any marching bands or groups organized, back in February when they first start. So we do recognize the sacrifices that Veterans have made and the difficulty that Veterans today have in remembering those that they have lost in service. We appreciate their service. As a City this is what we are trying to do to honor them. If anybody would like to continue to honor them or support them, I would recommend supporting a program that Harbor Care, which runs the Veteran's Housing and Supports Programs and has made Nashua a functional zero city, meaning there are functionally zero homeless Veterans. If there are any Veterans that identify as homeless, we are able to place them within 24 hours of getting that information; or support the VFW or other organizations that are Veteran operated and run. Thank you.

Chairman O'Brien

Thank you Alderman Lopez, well stated. Any other comment? Alderman Jette?

Alderman Jette

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think I should add to what Alderman Lopez said. I should mention that the funding for the materials for the painting of these barriers has been provided by Welts, White & Fontaine a law firm that Alderman Tencza works out. Also the next law firm on the street, Smith-Weiss, Shepard & Spony and then the third contributor was a new restaurant that will be opening soon, I hope, called Rambling House run by the Gleason family. I want to mention them and thank them for contributing, for making that contribution.

And while I have the floor, Mr. Chairman, for the benefit of our technical people, during this meeting the people on Zoom I could hear very well. But the people in the Chamber, the volume was very low and I could hear you Mr. Chairman, but Alderman Lopez I had more trouble hearing and Donna Graham, I don't know I could barely hear her and I couldn't hear President Wilshire at all. So just providing that feedback to the technical people. Thank you.

Chairman O'Brien

I think we made a minor adjustment. But I think this might be a good opportunity for testing and folks at home, please bear with us a second. Alderman Wilshire can you just give a test 1, 2, 3, 4 and see if Alderman Jette, if this helps out our technical people.

Alderman Wilshire

Sure thing. I'd rather be home watching the Red Sox Game, but you know, I am here and testing, 1, 2, 3.

Chairman O'Brien

I totally disagree with you, it's the Pittsburg Penguins and New York Islanders, we want the Islanders to win. We get home ice advantage.

Alderman Dowd

I think the thing is with these microphones, you have to really get up close to them.

Chairman O'Brien

Can you hear Alderman Dowd speaking right now, Alderman Jette?'

Alderman Jette

No not at all.

Alderman Wilshire

It's very loud in here.

Alderman Lopez

That's the first time anybody has complained about not hearing me. Is that better?

Alderman Dowd

Hang on, can you hear me now?

(Discussion on microphones and testing)

Chairman O'Brien

Thank you to the folks at home for bearing with us as we launch this baby and it's going to work out good. Hope to get back, like Alderman Lopez mentioned with the mask mandate and hopefully very soon welcome us back into this Chamber. And we are excited for the folks at home to come in and see it. It is beautifully directed and I think the people will definitely enjoy it.

But I would just like to say to echo again what Alderman Lopez and Alderman Jette, somewhere in-between the hot dogs and hamburgers and the family fun, do remember the Veterans. Within my lifetime, my grandfather fought in World War I, my father World War II, my generation Vietnam, Korea, before that and some of the kids from when I used to coach lacrosse at the high school were involved with some of the Gulf Wars. We have known wars for a long time here and some our citizens have made, including the supreme sacrifice. So between all the fun and it safely but do remember those that have served our country so well. Alderman Lopez, you had your hand up?

Alderman Lopez

Just as a point of clarification did you just say you were alive during World War I?

Chairman O'Brien

No, my grandfather was. But I heard all about it. That was the first words in French that I learned because he served in France as we used to say (speaking in French). And I know somebody is going to come up and say, he said it wrong. Anyways, Happy Memorial Day to all those. And that's it. Before I call for a motion from Alderman Lopez to adjourn, please do not change your dial. We are going to get right into Budget, I know everybody is excited. So with that, Alderman Lopez, do you have a motion?

POSSIBLE NON-PUBLIC SESSION – None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION BY ALDERMAN LOPEZ TO ADJOURN BY ROLL CALL

A viva voce roll call was taken which resulted as follows:

Yea: Alderman O'Brien, Alderman Lopez,
Alderman Jette, Alderman Tencza,
Alderman Wilshire 5

Nay: 0

MOTION CARRIED

The meeting was declared closed at 7:33 p.m.

Donna Graham, Pro Tem