

PUBLIC SAFETY

Tuesday, June 4, 2019 – 5:30 p.m.

Police Training Room – Olean Municipal Building

Present: Members: Chairman Andreano, Vice Chairman Gonzalez, Alderman Witte, Alderman Dougherty, Alderman Crawford, Alderman Smith, and Alderman George. Others: Mayor William Aiello; Nicholas DiCerbo, Jr., City Attorney; Fred Saradin, City Auditor; Bob Ring, Director of Public Works; Jeff Rowley, Police Chief; Bob Bell, Fire Chief, and Tiffany Taylor, Managerial Confidential Administrative Secretary.

1. Roll Call

Alderman Andreano called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. and asked that the record show that all committee members were present.

2. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Committee Meeting (Tuesday, May 21, 2019)

A motion to approve the minutes of the May 21, 2019 meeting was made by Alderman Andreano, seconded by Alderman Smith. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried.

3. Unfinished Business

None

4. New Referrals for Consideration

a. Discussion – No Parking, East side of the 100 block of North 8th Street

Alderman Crawford explained that he does not want to eliminate parking on the entire block, but rather for a distance of twenty feet from the sidewalk. He explained that there is limited site on the road when you turn right onto it from West State Street.

Alderman Smith asked if this was a request from a business, and Alderman Crawford responded that this was a request from a resident. He explained that when the barbeque business on the corner is open, the area is hectic and people always park in this area. He explained that this would only eliminate one parking space, but would greatly increase the ability to see down the roadway.

Mr. Ring explained that there would still be two or three parking spots on the block. He added that twenty feet from the corner is the standard in all DOT manuals; however, without signing, it is not enforceable.

Alderman Smith asked if drivers come around the corner from State Street and find a car immediately parked there, and Alderman Crawford explained that is the situation. He added that the business there is close to the corner, so it is very difficult to see.

Chief Rowley explained that he recommends both no parking and no standing for this area. Alderman Gonzalez asked if there is anywhere where standing could be permitted, but not parking, and Chief Rowley explained that it is okay to stand unless signage dictates otherwise.

Alderman Gonzalez asked if no parking and no standing should be the standard moving forward, and Alderman Crawford responded that it can be difficult to eliminate standing on an entire block where there is no on street parking. He added that it seems that it is different at the end of the street than in the middle of the street, and Alderman Gonzalez agreed,

Chief Rowley explained that loading and unloading vehicles is different from standing. He explained that standing involves waiting in a running vehicle for a person, for example. Mayor Aiello added that it also matters whether you load and unload passengers or merchandise.

Alderman Crawford asked if no parking and no standing will allow someone to leave their car running, and run to get a barbeque and return, and Mayor Aiello replied that it won't. Chief Rowley added that you are not allowed to leave your running vehicle unattended on a public street.

A PL And resolution will be introduced at the next regular meeting for consideration.

b. Discussion – Road Condition, 400 block of North 10th Street

Alderman Crawford explained that this is a request that comes from YMCA members. He understands that this block is not on the agenda for this summer's road repairs, but that it is an old brick street with a lot of patchwork. He added that the west side is in very poor condition. He asked if DPW should evaluate this and consider this roadway for repair in the near future.

Mayor Aiello explained that the roadway is probably already evaluated, and Mr. Ring added that every street in the City is rated. HE explained that he is reluctant to do too much patchwork on a brick street, but DPW has been working on replacing the patches. Alderman Crawford explained that there are some really bad areas, so he thought he would bring this up.

Alderman Gonzalez explained that he believes that this is a prime street for conversion from brick to asphalt. He explained that it is not in the Oak Hill Historical District, and the street is indeed horrendous.

Alderman Crawford explained that the street is not just in bad shape, but there are a lot of low places that fill with water. He explained that he does not know how costly it would be for an

overhaul. Mr. Ring responded that it would be a several hundred thousand dollar cost to redo the street. He explained that if the patches are not removed, they will pop up through the asphalt like they are now in the brick.

Alderman Crawford noted that the street needs some TLC and cleanup work.

Alderman Smith explained that brick streets have a lot of swales, and he has had private companies come out to patch his lots. He explained that they do an amazing job, and questions if the City should consider hiring an outside contractor to patch the street who has more experience with situations such as these. Alderman Crawford asked if this option was reasonably affordable, and Alderman Smith replied that it is.

c. Request for Traffic Study – North 12th Street

Alderman Crawford explained that he would like to see a traffic study done to determine the peak times of traffic on this roadway. He explained that he has spoken to the neighbors who are not in favor of no parking on the entire street. There is currently only parking on one side of each block. He explained that he has had a conversation with Mr. Ring, and he proposes looking into limiting parking during certain high peak times of the day, with restricted parking possibly once in the morning and once in the afternoon.

Alderman George asked if this is done anywhere else, and Mr. Ring replied that it is usually done around schools. Chief Rowley noted that the peak time on this roadway is really 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Alderman Witte asked if all of the residents on the street have driveways, and Alderman Crawford replied that he is not sure. However, he explained that there are some rentals on the street with multiple vehicles. He explained that he has received valid concerns from residents as to why the entire street should not be a no parking zone.

Mayor Aiello asked what block the committee would like the study done on. Chief Rowley explained that they will find that traffic is really a problem on this road most of the day. Alderman Gonzalez explained that he would like to see Mr. Ring's maps to see where the accidents are, and Alderman Andreano explained that she is in favor of the study.

Chief Rowley explained that the study will only be good for the block that it is done on. Alderman Andreano noted that she feels that the 100 block and 400 block are where the studies should be completed, as that is where the street is busiest. Alderman Crawford noted that he feels that Reed and Sullivan is probably the busiest block. Mayor Aiello explained that he feels that the 100 block would be fair, and that two studies could be done.

Alderman Gonzalez explained that he feels that the 100 block is where the congestion is the worst. Alderman Smith asked if the on street parking is uniform, and Alderman Crawford replied that it goes back and forth. Alderman Smith explained that that may be part of the reason why the street is so congested at times, because of the confusion that this causes. Alderman Crawford asked if the parking was set up this way intentionally for a traffic calming effect, and Mr. Ring replied that he is unsure.

Traffic studies will be done on the 100 and 400 blocks of North 12th Street.

5. Approval of Committee Reports

None

6. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Alderman Andreano, seconded by Alderman Smith. Voice vote, ayes all. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at approximately 5:55 p.m.