

## ***City Council Committee Reports for 2021***

**DATE:** October 13 2021 \_\_**RECORDER**\_\_**McCauley- Chair** \_\_

### ***COMMITTEE*** \_\_***Public Safety***\_\_

<b>Councillors Attending</b>		<b>Others Attending</b>	<b><i>Address</i></b>
Barry N. Connell		<b><i>List of names in Public Comment</i></b>	
Joseph H. Devlin			
Afroz Khan		<b><i>Jennie Donahue</i></b>	<b><i>18 Cherry St</i></b>
Byron J. Lane	<b><i>no</i></b>	<b><i>Mike/Pam Ameen</i></b>	<b><i>2 Coffin</i></b>
James J. McCauley	<b><i>PS</i></b>		
Heather L. Shand	<b><i>PD</i></b>		
Charles F. Tontar			
Bruce L. Vogel	<b><i>PS</i></b>		
Christine E. Wallace	<b><i>PD</i></b>		
Sharif I. Zeid			
Jared J. Eigerman	<b><i>PD</i></b>		

### ***AGENDA ITEMS***

### ***ACTION TAKEN***

<b><i>Approval of Prior Minutes</i></b>	<b><i>2-0</i></b>
<b><i>COMM 346 8-30-21 Safety Concerns on Coffin St</i></b>	

### **Recording**

Your cloud recording is now available.

Topic: Public Safety Committee

Date: Oct 13, 2021 06:24 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Copy the link below to share this recording with viewers:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83gLfa5Dd4m147PxyvV9zWG3KbiCy7mub8zdEH2zskmWtuXS1BQ3MDKnyv3HbwN.rP3cLpHBeBejqxh> Passcode: @2mE5FA!

This was a joint meeting between Public Safety and Planning & Development.

Public Safety: Cnclr Vogel, Cnclr McCauley, Cnclr Lan – absent

Planning & Development: Cnclr Shand, Cnclr Eigerman, Cnclr Wallace

## Agenda Items

Approval of Previous Minutes: Minutes for 9/9, 9/27, 10/5  
Approve 2-0

### **COMM346 Safety Concerns on Coffin St**

Council Received a Letter from resident Jane Snow (9 Coffin St) detailing suggested safety issues that exist on Coffin St. Items include:

- encroachment on ROW (too narrow for turnaround at dead end, cars, trucks have limited room to turnaround. Roadway was to have a j-turn, but support wall at 13 Coffin was moved outward, appears as a single driveway.
- IS the fire hydrant on corner needed for Jefferson rear? Does it create a hazard?
- Distance of the street when turning right at top of street—is it insufficient for snow plows (snow piles), create hazard for trash truck, oil deliveries, landscaping trucks, fire trucks?
- Walking access from Coffin to Jefferson to avoid walking on Merrimac St

The root cause of all these items seems to be an unresolved item regarding the status of Coffin St.  
Does the paper street extend from 8/13 coffin st thru to Jefferson.

P&D has no comment

Public Comment: summarized below, please hit recording link for actual comments

**Gary Timillio (13 Coffin St.)** when his lot was approved, he thought these issues were resolve. He believes this is a private way. Laer in the meeting, Gary mentioned he had not seen the safety issue—cars/trucks have no issue turning around.

**Carol Meinhart (27A Jefferson).** 32 years at that spot. Its always been not a through street. WRT Fire hydrant, she spoke to Deputy Bradbury and he said there are other hydrants to use.

**Marie Svirsky (4 Coffin St).** She believed this item was addressed in 2002. She is a walker and uses this “cut through”. She wants it kept as a walking path, not a through way for cars.

**Candace Mitchel (29 Jefferson st).** Collins St-Jefferson is a private way. Suggested City needed to show proof it wasn;t. Walkers are OK, making changes here would set a bad precedent.

**Jeffrey Trail (27 Jefferson).** He believes this is a private way. City needs to show a preponderance of proof that it is not.

**Lynne Barone (6 Coffin St).** Been there 6 years. 3 kids, use this as walkway to Jefferson to get to Bres.

**Jane Snow (9 Coffin St).** recited a long history of the area, past attempts to make it a through street, references documents from 2014 (ZBA, Aty Riordan proposal).

**Stehanie Niketic (93 High St).** She calls this situation terrifying for all involved. This could be city property and yet the abutters are left in limbo. Public property is disappearing with no accounting.

**Deanna Eastman (9B Coffin).** She has seen safety vehicles struggle to turn around. It’s a concern.

**Mary Sortel (8 Coffin St).** She feels this is a private way. She does not see the safety issues raised.  
PC closed

P&D committee took up deliberations

Cnlr Eigerman suggested that the City undertake a Title Examination to determine the current legal status of this area. This would require an ORDR, and funding.

After some debate, Cnlr Shand offered to submit an order (ORDR along the lines of: Direct the City Solicitor to hire a Title Examiner for this area and to report back to the CC) at 10/25 CC meeting...that passed 3-0.

PS committee took up deliberations

Cnlr Vogel: suggested this is a neighborhood issue and not a City Issue.

Cnclr McCauley: disagreed with that idea. This is potentially City-owned land and we should determine that first, then the CC should make a decision as to what to do with the land itself. Supports the P&D recommendation.

Motion By Cnclr Vogel to R&F, no second

Motion by Cnclr McCauley to support the P&D recommendation of a Title Examination...no second.

Motion by Cnclr Vogel to send to full CC with NO RECOMMENDATION...seconded....2-0.

Motion to Adjourn.