

CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETING REPORT

COMMITTEE: Public Works & Safety
LOCATION: Hybrid / City Council Chambers
DATE & TIME: July 18, 2023 5:00 pm
RECORDER: Christine Wallace

MEETING POSTING LINK: <https://www.cityofnewburyport.com/public-works-safety/events/326331>

COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Ward 4 Councillor Christine Wallace – PRESENT
Ward 2 Councillor Jennie Donahue – ABSENT
Ward 5 Councillor Jim McCauley – PRESENT

OTHER ATTENDEES: Roger Jones, 37 Storeybrooke Drive
Wayne Amaral, DPS Director
Jeanine Murphy, 10 Plummer Ave
Ilene Grady, Cushing Ave
Rick Taintor, 10 Dexter Street
Greg Gingras, 10 Independent Street

AGENDA:

APPT00409 Roger E. Jones 37 Storeybrooke Dr. Water/Sewer Comm. 7/31/2025
APPT00413 Andrew Casson 240 Merrimac St. Harbor Comm. 7/31/2026
ORDR00473 Waiver for Asphalt Sidewalk Norman Avenue
COMM00479 Ward 4 Street Sidewalk Traffic Safety Priorities
ODNC00103 Streets, Sidewalks, and Other Public Places Alterations & Maintenance

ZOOM RECORDING LINK:

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/play/ZSA8ObLlkwNYRvf0yDiERAUeyyqHHYAYMAKCRLSxh-8dh2ht65kzY7Wm8zut9_4xdwLVAsODKTYEwV4.Vh-rPZAXgOi76lI2?canPlayFromShare=true&from=share_recording_detail&continueMode=true&componentName=rec-play&originRequestUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fus02web.zoom.us%2Frec%2Fshare%2FCcH8LDBsab-Y5Ex_skCULM75zir4tLgCyVx7lpybbrd2clXXJUd0uRJEcgOi1lk-.2BM-emmM6Whn-tUu

DISCUSSION AND ACTIONS:

APPT00409 Roger E. Jones 37 Storeybrooke Dr. Water/Sewer Comm. 7/31/2025

Action Taken: Approved 2-0, 1 Absent

Notes:

- Registered Professional Mechanical Engineer, 40 years at GE, 47 years involved in

community, moved here in 1975, on the Water Commission since 2011.

- Wants to continue to serve and help see some projects move through such as the Indian Hill pipeline
- PFAS still a problem in water supplies because it continues to be made and used. With the new EPA regulations, ultimately Newburyport and other communities may need to install filtering systems.
- Meter Replacement – losing some revenue because of inaccurate readings. New meters will help but will also help consumers know right away of any issues in their system such as leaks.
- Communication – agreed that continuing these conversations with the City Council, Water & Sewer Commission, staff, and the public will help educate as important projects move forward.

APPT00413 Andrew Casson 240 Merrimac St. Harbor Comm. 7/31/2026

Action Taken: Appointee Unable to Attend, Item not Discussed

ORDR00473 Waiver for Asphalt Sidewalk Norman Avenue

Sponsored by: Ward 5 Clr. McCauley

Action Taken: Approved 2-0, 1 Absent

Notes:

- Currently asphalt, developer doing work for approx. 50-60 ft frontage and is proposing asphalt.
- The long-term upgrade plan for the sidewalk is asphalt anyway, so concrete doesn't make sense for this one segment.
- DPS is in agreement with the request, and certain conditions will be adhered to regarding street trees.

COMM00479 Ward 4 Street Sidewalk Traffic Safety Priorities

Written By: Ward 4 Councillor Christine Wallace

Action Taken: No Action, Stays in Committee

ODNC00103 Streets, Sidewalks, and Other Public Places Alterations & Maintenance

Sponsored by: Ward 5 Clr. McCauley and Ward 4 Clr. Wallace

Action Taken: No Action, Stays in Committee

MEETING ADJOURNED

Action Taken: Approved 2-0, 1 Absent