

City Council Committee Reports for 2024

Date: Mar 18, 2024 Recorder: McCauley

Public Works & Safety Committee

Councillors Attending		Others Attending	Address
James McCauley	<i>m</i>	<i>Andrew Levine</i>	<i>CoS</i>
Jennie Donahue	<i>m</i>	<i>Wayne Amaral</i>	<i>Dir DPS</i>
Heath Granas	<i>m</i>	<i>Noah Berger</i>	<i>Dir MEVA</i>
Byron J. Lane	<i>x</i>	<i>Angus Jennings</i>	<i>WNewbury Town Mgr</i>
Ed Cameron		<i>Jane Snow</i>	<i>Coffin St</i>
Heather L. Shand		<i>Rick Parker</i>	<i>WNewbury BOS</i>
Afroz Khan		<i>Wendy Reed</i>	<i>WNewbury Chair BOS</i>
Connie Preston		<i>Laurie O'Donnell</i>	<i>29Marquand Ln</i>
Ben Harmon		<i>Scott Sullivan</i>	<i>27Marquand Ln</i>
Sharif I. Zeid		<i>Jake Brussard</i>	<i>22Marquand Ln</i>
Mark Wright		<i>David Vance</i>	<i>SPO in Merrimac</i>

AGENDA ITEMS

ACTION TAKEN

<i>Approval of Previous Minutes</i>	<i>Approve 3-0</i>
<i>APPT481 3-11-24 David Vance SPO for NDP</i>	<i>Approve 3-0</i>
<i>ORDR 542 2-26-24 Crosswalk at Turkey Hill and Hale St</i>	<i>Approve 3-0</i>
<i>COMM 544 3-11-24 Email from Laurie Odonnell Re: Flooding-Marquand Ln</i>	<i>Hold</i>
<i>COMM 539 2-26-24 MEVA Bus Route Change</i>	<i>R&F 3-0</i>
<i>COMM 533 2-12-24 Middle St-Plummer Spring Bridge Next Steps</i>	<i>Hold</i>
<i>COMM 538 2-26-24 Memo on Plummer Spring Bridge</i>	<i>Hold</i>

Recording

You can copy the recording information below and share with others

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/gkA347RQ97FaVTHXNxyg_4ANklqeDHKM-lb_pdn0Y3roo7xvcipZw5w2HN5Xdns.9LeaebxdY1fy8tOA

Agenda Items

Chair Cllr McCauley, Cllr Donahue, Cllr Granas

***Approval of Previous Minutes: from 2/5/24
Committee: Approve 3-0***

APPT 481 David Vance as SPO for NPD

David Vance Special Police Officer for NPD. Retired Police Officer – served in Merrimac also. Would work details and special events. Cllr Granas- about how many times called to Nbpt. – familiar with area? Numerous details, election about 15 -20 times.

Committee: Vote 3-0 to Approve

ORDR542 Crosswalk at Turkey Hill and Hale St

Crosswalk on Turkey Hill and Hale - amend sidewalk list -Turkey Hill Rd crosswalk at a preexisting curb cut. No work other than painting. Cllr McCauley sponsored. Cllr Granas- went by and feel it is necessary. Cllr Donahue asked about ADA pads. They are there

Committee: Vote 3-0

COMM 544 Email from Laurie Odonnell RE: Flooding on Marquand Lane

Email Laurie O'Donnell Re: Flooding. 29 Marquand Lane – water in basement and culvert full (5ft) with lots of children in neighborhood. DPS stated infrastructure not done correctly in neighborhood. Asking for it to be addressed so her basement doesn't continue to flood. Resident- storm drains not working, basement flooded 3 times in 2 months. DPS aware of issue. Did come and try and pump some of the water down. Property across street floods and that overflows and comes across road. Cllr McCauley appears drains are clogged. Culvert doesn't seem to be able to handle capacity. Cascading type situation. Resident- flooding new in last 3 years. DPS says pipe broken and they compare it to Philips Dr. Cllr Lane- my experience is that it is getting worse. Need to have evaluation of this. Resident of 22 Marquand online who is impacted by this. Water has no place to go. Zoom Scott Sullivan- 27 Marquand lane- water issue has come to a head in last couple of years. Feel it is more than high water level. Small amount of rain causes issue. First time it is coming down my driveway and effecting my lower level of split home. Will have to replace floors. Reached out to DPW in January and they said they would look at it. Need fix. Feel it is a larger more costly fix. Mayor did reach out to us last week. Chair - intent is to put some light on this and try to come up with a long time solution. Dir Amaral- very familiar with this and have done research. 100% of neighborhood has private swales that city does not maintain. Blocked now because pipe on private property was cut. Two catch basins are now useless. A lot of issues are on private property. Went the other day to pump out basin at a cost of \$4,000. Cllr. McCauley: have we looked at steps to access connecting basin. Dir Amaral- would need to have water pumped. Cost to try and fix about \$600,000 to keep it on public property. Can't be put on private property as houses are too close together. Chair- can't imagine city would have to come at each storm. City in quandary as to next steps forward. Residents have been told no schematic of neighborhood so how do we know pipe broken? DPS saying broken pipe on my property. Dir Amaral- recreated by talking to developer. If pipe was still there not 100% sure we wouldn't have same problem. All the drainage puts water in the back of people's property and is now an issue. Resident- have been there 24 yrs. and it has only been a problem in last 3 yrs. Dir Amaral- when we went out yards were wet to the point they couldn't be used in July. Feels only way is to put drainage in right of way so city could maintain. Jake Brussard- 22 Marquand Lane- moved there 3 yrs. ago. When first moved in no issues with water. Our back yard has 3-5 inches of standing water. Side yard as much as a foot. Cllr Lane- my recommendation is to keep it in committee until we find solution. Need to find out why water isn't draining. Need long term solution. Cllr Granas- is pumping done regularly? Chair: to date only once? Can DPS come out so resident's basements don't get flooded? Chair has both public and private issues we need to address. Need to continue to work on this. Cllr Donahue would like it to stay in committee. Chair will keep it in committee and ask DPW director for timeline and steps city will take.

Vote to keep in committee 3-0

COMM539 MVRTA Route Change

MVRTA Route Change. Takes effect April 8th. Rte 19 Towle building removed – covered by door to door minibus– Now serve AJH - route goes into hosp. from Low St -drops off -continue to High St. Andrew

Levine- had a public meeting. Noah Berger- trying to make bus services more visible and keep riders on bus or waiting minimal times. Bus ridership increased by 60%. Bus is free. Collaborative work with city and AJH appreciated. Cllr Granas- large showing at meeting. Riders asked for more signage and sheltered places to wait. Noah B working on visibility campaign. Buses vibrant. In process of designing bus stop signs. Finding residents do not want bus signs near their home. Trying to ease that anxiety. Got a state grant to put up 19 shelters. Amesbury got 4, Lawrence 15. Applied for another grant. Cllr Granas- folks are unclear how to sign up for minibus. Noah B on bus website. Not limited to city of Nbpt. Cllr Granas- how long will bus be free. Noah B- initially given 2 years. Merrimac Valley Planning doing study for benefits free bus allows. Hope this makes case to sustain this. Motion to rec & file 3-0 COMM00533_02_12_2024 Middle St-Plummer Spring Bridge- working with West Newbury to closure. Currently: Project has all required permits, Bid docs are prepared.
Committee: Vote to R&F

***COMM533 Email from W Newbury to Nbpt City Council on Middle St-Plummer Spring Bridge
COMM 538 Memo on Plummer Spring Bridge (City of Nbpt to City Council)***

Memo on Plummer Spring- met with Town Manager Jennings 2-14. City actively applying for new Small Bridge Grant from Mass DOT - informed we are a strong candidate. Also looking at Small Bridge grant in FY 25 cycle. Will enter into a new intermunicipal agreement – for cost allocation & process. Pursuing additional funding thru state and federal representative. Representative from West Newbury at meeting. West Newbury actively pursuing this. Mr Jennings – W. Newbury also Rick Parker, board member. Mr. Jennings -13 different permits at a cost of \$500,000. Current focus fill funding gap. Dept Trans has given nod to grant \$750,000. Working on new agreement. Prepared updated cost summary which he handed out – listed potential grants. Short fall \$1.1mil. feel numbers are high as they were conservative. Andrew Levine- good summary of where we are in process. City has responsibility to repair infrastructure. Done a great job of receiving state funding. Now discussion as to how we go forward with this funding. Council will be involved in IMA. Cllr Granas- previous admin didn't support? Chair- did go back and forth with ideas just spiraled out of budget season and wasn't a priority. Dir Amaral- during early design looked at a pedestrian bridge and cost was 75% of cost of a vehicle bridge. Once take DOT money you take their design. Chair- rec & file or keep in committee? Council will appoint someone to work with administration on this. Motion to leave in committee as communication. 3-0