



City of Keene
New Hampshire

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES,
FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE
COMMITTEE
AGENDA
Council Chambers B
January 9, 2019
6:00 PM**

Janis O. Manwaring
Randy L. Filiault
Stephen L. Hooper
Gary P. Lamoureux
Robert B. Sutherland

-
1. Brett Amy Thelen - Harris Center for Conservation Education - Request to Temporarily Close a Section of North Lincoln Street - Amphibian Crossings
 2. Roxbury Street Bridge Replacement - Aesthetic Options - Public Works Department
 3. Relating to Loading Zones and Parking
Ordinance O-2018-22
 4. Relating to Sustainable Energy Goals
Resolution R-2018-36

MORE TIME ITEMS:

- A. Ashuelot Court Homeowners – Request to Partner in the Installation of Water and Sewer Lines on Ashuelot Court, a Designated Private Road

Non Public Session
Adjournment



Transmittal Form

December 31, 2018

TO: Mayor and Keene City Council

FROM: Brett Amy Thelen

THROUGH: Patricia A. Little, City Clerk

ITEM: 1.

SUBJECT: Brett Amy Thelen - Harris Center for Conservation Education - Request to Temporarily Close a Section of North Lincoln Street - Amphibian Crossings

COUNCIL ACTION:

In City Council January 3, 2019.

Referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

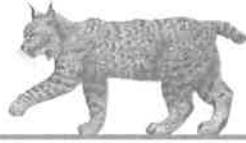
ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Communication_Harris Center

BACKGROUND:

The Harris Center for Conservation Education is requesting the temporary closure of North Lincoln Street for a period of six weeks for the safety of the migrating amphibians and the families that come out to watch.



HARRIS CENTER
FOR CONSERVATION EDUCATION

December 5, 2018

Mayor Kendall Lane and City Council
3 Washington Street
Keene, NH 03431

To the Honorable Mayor and City Council,

I am writing to once again request the temporary closure of a portion of North Lincoln Street for approximately 6 nights during a 6-week period in March and April, in order to ensure the safety of migrating amphibians and the many families who come out to watch them.

As you may remember, thousands of salamanders and frogs make their way to breeding wetlands – including the wetland adjacent to Woodland Cemetery and North Lincoln Street – on the first warm, rainy nights of spring, and many are killed when they must cross roads. Studies have shown that even modest vehicle traffic can have a significant negative impact on local amphibian populations.

Last spring, the Harris Center for Conservation Education worked with City staff to institute temporary detours around the North Lincoln Street amphibian crossing site on migration nights, facilitating the safe passage of more than 2,000 frogs and salamanders. On any given night, 20 to 50 people also visited the site to see the amphibians, including dozens of families with young children who'd never experienced a "Big Night" before.

Stories on the road closures appeared in the *Keene Sentinel*, *Monadnock Ledger-Transcript*, *Concord Monitor*, and *New Hampshire Union Leader*, and on NHPR. *New Hampshire Chronicle* also re-ran an older segment on our Salamander Crossing Brigades that was partially filmed at the North Lincoln Street amphibian crossing. The City's social media posts on the detours reached nearly 78,000 people – orders of magnitude higher than any of the Public Works Department's other posts – and the vast majority of comments were supportive.

In addition, I presented on the amphibian detours at the Northeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation annual meeting (August 2018) and the Northeastern Transportation and Wildlife Conference (September 2018). In both instances, the City was commended for their collaboration with the Harris Center on this project.

Closing this section of road on migration nights in the spring of 2019 would once again ensure the safety of thousands of animals – which are an important part of the Robin Hood Park

ecosystem – and scores of people who come to North Lincoln Street to observe the spectacle. The planned detour will not impact anyone wishing to travel to their home on North Lincoln Street, as the closure spans the section of road bounded to the east by Robin Hood Park and to the west by Woodland Cemetery.

As a reminder, the amphibian migration is a weather-dependent phenomenon, so I cannot provide specific dates for the requested road closures at this time. However, last spring we worked successfully with the Department of Public Works and the Parks, Recreation, and Cemetery Department to implement the road closures and to inform the public about them. We anticipate a similarly smooth road closure and notification process in 2019.

I've spoken with Duncan Watson, Assistant Public Works Director, who affirmed that the closures represent a minor impact in terms of labor and resources dedicated to installing the detour. According to Duncan, "the Public Works Department is pleased to join in the enthusiastic public support for this important project."

Thank you for your consideration of this request, which would benefit both wildlife and people in Keene. I would be more than happy to meet with you, or to make a brief presentation to whichever subcommittee is assigned this request, to provide more information and to answer any questions you have.

Sincerely,



Brett Amy Thelen
Science Director
Harris Center for Conservation Education
thelen@harriscenter.org

In City Council January 3, 2019.
Referred to the Municipal Services,
Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.



Patricia Cottle
City Clerk



City of Keene, N.H.
Transmittal Form

January 7, 2019

TO: Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee

FROM: Donald R. Lussier, P.E., City Engineer

THROUGH: Elizabeth A. Dragon, City Manager

ITEM: 2.

SUBJECT: Roxbury Street Bridge Replacement - Aesthetic Options - Public Works Department

RECOMMENDATION:

Move that the Municipal Services, Facilities & Infrastructure Committee recommend that the City Council select Option (A / B / C) for the Roxbury Street Bridge railings, and that decorative lighting be integrated into the bridge design.

BACKGROUND:

On October 4, 2018, the City Council approved the recommended structure type (precast rigid frame) and construction method (accelerated bridge construction) for the replacement of the Roxbury Street Bridge over Beaver Brook. The design has now advanced to the "Preliminary Design" stage.

The City's consultants will present various options for the aesthetic features of the bridge. Options being considered include:

- A. Stone veneer columns with painted structural steel railings,
- B. Stone veneer pedestals with a stone veneer concrete barrier and decorative steel railing, or
- C. Concrete columns and parapet walls with ornamental panel.

All options can be constructed with or without decorative lighting.



November 29, 2018

TO: Mayor and Keene City Council
FROM: Donald R. Lussier, P.E., City Engineer
THROUGH: Elizabeth A. Dragon, City Manager
ITEM: 3.
SUBJECT: Relating to Loading Zones and Parking

COUNCIL ACTION:

In City Council December 20, 2018.
Referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Ordinance O-2018-22, Relating to Loading Zones and Parking, be referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee for review and recommendation to the City Council.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Ordinance O-2018-22

BACKGROUND:

The City's recent reconstruction of the Gilbo East parking lot shifted the travel lane along the southern portion of St. James Street toward the west in order to accommodate angled parking on the eastern side. This necessitated the elimination of five metered parallel spaces on the west side.

The attached Ordinance O-2018-22 will expand an existing 15-minute loading zone and designate the remainder of this area a "No Parking" zone.



CITY OF KEENE

O-2018-22

Eighteen

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand and

Relating to Loading Zones and Parking

AN ORDINANCE

Be it ordained by the City Council of the City of Keene, as follows:

That the City Code of the City of Keene, New Hampshire, as amended is hereby further amended by removing the stricken text and inserting the bolded text to the following provisions in Article III, "Parking", Division 2, "Specific Streets Regulations", Section 94-92 "Designated loading zones" and Section 94-93, "No parking", in Chapter 94, entitled "Traffic, Parking and Public Ways" as follows:

Sec. 94-92. - Designated loading zones.

- (a) There are hereby established certain areas along curbs or in other areas to be known as loading zones or live parking areas, to be specifically marked as such, where vehicles may stop to discharge or pick up passengers or freight but may not be left unattended for longer than 15 minutes. The following areas are hereby designated as loading zones:

~~St. James Street, 55 feet southerly from the freight door of Sentinel Publishing Company premises to the end of the building of Indian Head News Company on the west side of St. James Street.~~

St. James Street, west side, from a point intersecting the extended centerline of Lamson Street, southerly 115 feet.

Sec. 94-93. - No parking.

- (a) Specific streets. No person shall stop, stand, or park a vehicle, except when necessary to avoid conflict with other traffic or in compliance with the directions of a police officer or a traffic control device, in any of the following places:

St. James Street, west side, from the northerly curb line of Gilbo Avenue to a point 88 feet north.

Kendall W. Lane, Mayor

In City Council December 20, 2018.
Referred to the Municipal Services,
Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

City Clerk



City of Keene, N.H.
Transmittal Form

December 14, 2018

TO: Mayor and Keene City Council
FROM: Mari Brunner, Planning Technician
THROUGH: Elizabeth A. Dragon, City Manager
ITEM: 4.
SUBJECT: Relating to Sustainable Energy Goals

COUNCIL ACTION:

In City Council December 20, 2018.

Referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Resolution R-2018-36 relative to Sustainable Energy Goals be referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee for consideration and a recommendation back to City Council.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Resolution R-2018-36

BACKGROUND:

This item was originally submitted to City Council as a communication from Nancy Gillard and Carolyn Jones on November 1, 2018. The communication was referred by Mayor Lane to the Energy and Climate Committee (ECC) and the Municipal Services, Facilities, and Infrastructure (MSFI) Committee. The ECC discussed the proposed resolution at their meeting on November 7, 2018 and voted unanimously to recommend that the Keene City Council adopt the proposed Sustainable Energy Resolution.

The MSFI committee reviewed this item at their meeting on November 28, 2018 and heard from approximately 28 individuals during the public comments portion of the meeting, all of whom were in favor of adopting the proposed sustainable energy goals. Several individuals read statements on behalf of area businesses and organizations in support of the proposed goals, including Bensonwood, Filtrine Manufacturing, Green Energy Options, Monadnock Food Co-op, Tree Free Greeting, The Greater Keene Chamber of Commerce, and Keene State College Sustainability Office. The committee voted to recommend that City Council direct staff to introduce a resolution regarding sustainable energy, which passed on a vote of 4-1 with Councilor Sutherland opposing.

At the December 6, 2018 City Council meeting, the Council voted to direct staff to introduce a resolution regarding sustainable energy, as recommended by the MSFI committee. The motion passed with 13 in favor and Councilor Sutherland opposed.



CITY OF KEENE

R-2018-36

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand andEighteen.....

A RESOLUTIONRELATING TO SUSTAINABLE ENERGY GOALS.....

Resolved by the City Council of the City of Keene, as follows:

WHEREAS, The City of Keene has formally recognized the challenges of Climate Change since the year 2000 when it became a participant in the Cities for Climate Protection Program; and

WHEREAS, The City of Keene then developed and implemented a Climate Action Plan in 2004 and a Climate Adaptation Plan in 2007 and incorporated these plans into its 2010 Comprehensive Master Plan after extensive community stakeholder engagement; and

WHEREAS, The State of New Hampshire 2009 Climate Action Plan set a goal of reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 80% from 1990 to 2050; and

WHEREAS, the challenges presented by Climate Change have become increasingly apparent in the intervening years, as reported in the Congressionally-mandated National Climate Assessments; and

WHEREAS, the United States Energy Information Administration reports that the combustion of fossil fuels accounts for as much as 76% of US Greenhouse Gas Emissions; and

WHEREAS, energy efficiency measures that drive down energy demand are the most cost-effective means to reduce fossil fuel consumption, and clean energy sources such as solar, wind, and small hydro may now be cost-competitive with fossil fuel sources; and

WHEREAS, local, distributed generation of energy can provide resilience to weather-related interruptions of energy supply and economic disruptions of energy pricing while reducing air pollution and associated public health risks; and

WHEREAS, clean, renewable energy is one of the nation's fastest-growing employment sectors and represents an enormous economic opportunity for Keene to create jobs and attract talent, thereby contributing to the vision of a vibrant economy outlined in the Comprehensive Master Plan and the Economic Development Action Plan; and

WHEREAS, economically disadvantaged residents, older people and children, people who are homeless, people with disabilities or health conditions, and

members of other underrepresented minorities experience the impacts of climate change disproportionately; and

WHEREAS, cities across the nation have made commitments to transition to 100 percent clean energy and Keene strives to remain a leader among its peer cities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Keene that:

A. It is the goal of the City of Keene that all electricity consumed in the City will come from renewable energy sources by the year 2030 and that 100% of all thermal energy and energy used for transportation come from renewable energy sources by the year 2050. This goal will apply to the entire Keene community, not just municipal government operations.

B. The City of Keene develop a strategic plan by December, 2020 to meet these renewable energy goals through a transparent and inclusive stakeholder process.

This resolution shall take effect upon sixty (60) days following approval by City Council.

Kendall W. Lane, Mayor

In City Council December 20, 2018.
Referred to the Municipal Services,
Facilities, Infrastructure Committee.



City Clerk