



Due to the COVID-2019 State of Emergency, the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee will be holding its meeting remotely using the web-based program, Zoom. Members of the public will be able to access this public meeting through a variety of options, described below. If you encounter any issues accessing this meeting, please call 603-757-0622 during the meeting. To access the meeting online navigate to *Zoom.us* and enter the Webinar ID # **852 4881 5042**. To listen via telephone call 877-853- 5257 and enter the Webinar ID: **#852 4881 5042**. When the meeting is open for public comment, callers may press *9 if interested in commenting or asking questions.

**MUNICIPAL SERVICES,
FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE
COMMITTEE
AGENDA
Council Chambers B
March 24, 2021
5:30 PM**

Janis O. Manwaring, Chair
Michael Giacomo, Vice Chair
Randy L. Filiault
Robert C. Williams
Andrew M. Madison

1. Continued Discussion – Amended Request for Property Access off the Old Gilsum Road Through City of Keene Utility Road
2. Request for Use of City Property - Police Department Memorial Stone - Police Chief
3. Purchase of the Robert J. Prowse Memorial Bridge - City Engineer
4. Request for Exception from the Public Improvement Standards - City Engineer

MORE TIME ITEMS:

- A. Maintenance of the Wilson Pond Dam - City Manager

Non Public Session
Adjournment



City of Keene
Transmittal Form

March 12, 2021

TO: Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee

FROM: Steven Russo, Police Chief

THROUGH: Elizabeth A. Dragon, City Manager

ITEM: 2.

SUBJECT: Request for Use of City Property - Police Department Memorial Stone - Police Chief

RECOMMENDATION:

Move that the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee recommend that the City Council approve the use of City property to place a Police Department memorial stone outside the Police Department at 400 Marlboro Street.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

Stone Concept

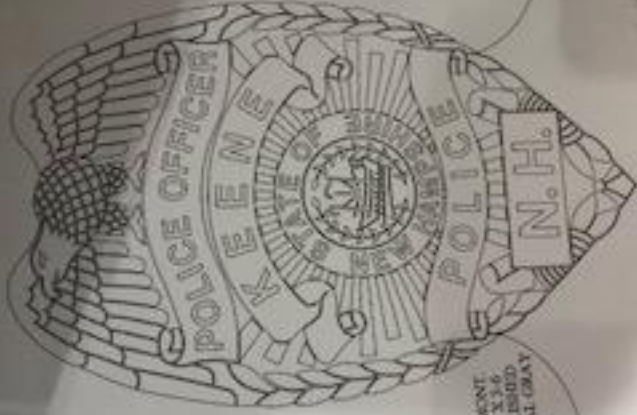
Stone Location

BACKGROUND:

A number of months ago Department members, representing both police unions and the Police Benevolent Association (PBA) approached the Department about constructing a memorial stone outside the Police Department. A representative committee was formed to research the topic.

Their efforts have resulted in a design, a preferred location and the identification of funding, which will be a combination of material donations from the PBA (the stone itself), the two unions, as well as private internal donations. No City funding will be used for the purchase of the stone, but assistance from the Public Works Department for placement and site work is being requested. Their assistance would reduce the cost of pre-installation site work as well as the actual installation. The exact nature of this assistance will not be known until we move forward with this project, but it is not expected to be long or excessive.

Attached to the memorandum is a photo of the outside of the Police Department, which shows the area being proposed. The exact spot is still to be determined, but it will be in the triangle area in front of the three trees or to the left of the current Police stone. Also attached is a drawing of the proposed stone, though this may not be the final version.



KEENE MOUNT
2-6 X 0-6 X 3-6
ALL POLISHED
IMPERIAL GRAY

1- In Honor of Those who Served and Protected



POLICE



City of Keene
Transmittal Form

March 18, 2021

TO: Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee

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

THROUGH: Elizabeth A. Dragon, City Manager

ITEM: 3.

SUBJECT: Purchase of the Robert J. Prowse Memorial Bridge - City Engineer

RECOMMENDATION:

Move that the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee recommend that the City Manager be authorized to do all things necessary to negotiate and execute a Bill of Sale along with Restrictive Covenants for the historical preservation of the Robert J. Prowse Memorial Bridge.

BACKGROUND:

As part of the FY 21-27 Capital Improvement Plan, the City Council approved a proposal for the Transportation Heritage Trail (THT). This project is intended to be the next phase in the City's ongoing work to improve the abandoned railroad for non-motorized transportation. The THT is envisioned to connect the previously completed Industrial Heritage Trail at Eastern Ave to the Cheshire Rail Trail at the Swanzey town line. The City Council recently approved an application for a grant to fund the first phase of the project.

The central feature of this project will be the adaptive reuse of three historic bridges. At Swanzey Factory Road, the City plans to reuse elements of the Island Street Bridge. The magnificent Stone Arch Bridge will be repaired and improved to provide a safe pedestrian bridge over the Branch River. To the west, the Robert J. Prowse Bridge will be reused to carry the trail over Rt. 101.

In 2019, City Staff submitted a proposal to the New Hampshire Department of Transportation to reuse the Prowse Bridge. The City's proposal has been accepted and the DOT is ready to formally "sell" us the bridge. The price will be \$1.00.

As a condition of the sale, the City is required to agree to restrictive covenants relating to the preservation of this historically important bridge. Key provisions will include:

- Our reuse, maintenance and repairs must preserve the historical integrity of the bridge.
- The State Historic Preservation Office is allowed to inspect the bridge once installed.
- The City will submit annual stewardship reports for 10 years.
- The City will be responsible for future maintenance and must maintain the bridge in a state of good repair.
- If not relocated by September 13, 2026, the NHDOT can elect to continue storing or scrap the bridge.



March 18, 2021

TO: Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee

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

THROUGH: Elizabeth A. Dragon, City Manager

ITEM: 4.

SUBJECT: Request for Exception from the Public Improvement Standards - City Engineer

RECOMMENDATION:

Move that the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee recommend that Liberty Utilities be granted an exception from Sec. 70-127(3) of the Public Improvement Standards in order to restore existing asphalt sidewalks on Roxbury St. with asphalt.

ATTACHMENTS:

Description

LU Request Letter

BACKGROUND:

The existing gas lines are located near the center of the roadway. This is ordinarily an ideal location for the gas utility, as it allows for water and sewer to be located in the center of the travel lanes while maintaining the required separation distances. However, the presence of the poured concrete roadway complicates the matter. The road was constructed with a joint directly along the centerline. The panels that comprise each travel lane are connected at this joint with steel dowels. In this way, seasonal movements in the slab are concentrated along the center of the roadway. In order to place the new gas main in the center of the roadway, they will need to cut a trench through the slabs, severing the connection. The reflective cracking that occurs today along the center of the road, will be replaced by two parallel longitudinal cracks that are 1 ½ to 2 feet off of the centerline (near the wheel path). That condition would be detrimental to the longevity of our upcoming pavement rehabilitation work. Cracks in the pavement allow water infiltration into the gravel base. This exacerbates the effect of the freeze/thaw cycles and causes the pavement to repeatedly flex. That in turn causes additional cracking. When cracks (and saturated gravel) occur within the wheel path of traffic, the traffic loading causes water to pump further away from the original crack. Eventually, these conditions will result in pavement defects known as “alligator cracking” and “rutting”. The process can be mitigated by crack sealing after the reflective cracks first appear (usually within 2-3 years).

The Engineering Division evaluated alternative routes with LU staff in order to avoid the condition described above. The sewer lines were found to run along the northern edge of the concrete roadway. There is insufficient width for the gas main to be routed between the sewer and the curb line. On the southern side, the space between the edge of the concrete slab and the curb line is occupied by the City’s water and drainage

utilities. The northern sidewalk area is the only viable alternative to the center of the roadway.

The sidewalks in the work area are currently surfaced with asphalt and are in fair to poor condition. None of the intersecting cross-streets are equipped with ADA-compliant accessibility features. In my opinion, the proposal from LU will benefit the City by:

- Reducing future reflective cracking in the roadway
- Incrementally improving the existing sidewalks
- Correcting accessibility deficiencies at six crosswalks

Therefore, I recommend approval of the requested exemption.



March 12, 2021

Keene City Council
C/o Donald Lussier PE, City Engineer

On behalf of Liberty Utilities, I would like to request that the City Council grant a waiver to the requirements of Sec. 70-127(3) of the City Code. Specifically we propose to replace the existing asphalt sidewalks on the north side of Roxbury Street with new asphalt sidewalks. Liberty believes that this waiver is in the best interest of the City. Placing the gas main along the northern sidewalk will allow us to avoid cutting a trench through the center of the concrete road. It is likely that the longitudinal joints near the center line will eventually result in reflective cracks due to the seasonal movement of the underlying concrete slabs. In addition, the proposed restoration with asphalt will greatly improve the existing asphalt surface and will provide ADA-compliant ramps at crosswalks.

Liberty proposes to install our new HDPE (Plastic) gas main under the current asphalt sidewalk and replace in kind as is currently in place now on the north side of Roxbury Street. The area of construction would start between Harrison St. and Franklin St. and extend to Oak St. As discussed per PWD specifications, the sidewalk would be 5 foot in width with 2" of 3/4" binder and 1" of 3/8" wear course. Also, on either side of each crosswalk, concrete slabs would be poured to meet the ADA guidelines. There would still be some Roxbury St. crossings through the concrete to connect the new gas to the existing gas utilities on the south side of Roxbury St.

Liberty Utilities would like to postpone the start of our construction of the replacement gas main and services on Roxbury Street until a decision can be reached regarding this request. It is our understanding that the decision from council would be determined by Friday, April 2nd. If Council allows this waiver we will discuss any further requirements and details of construction at that time. If Council decides against installation beneath the sidewalk with asphalt restoration, Liberty would intend to install our replacement main in the area of the centerline of the street by cutting the concrete and replacing with asphalt, based flush, as previously agreed upon. This will occur prior to the City overlay project. In either case, we would expect to begin construction, or at a minimum, preparations for construction the week following the decision.

Thank you for your consideration to this matter.

Stephen Rokes
Manager, Gas Operations Keene Division
Mobile: 603-209-5282