



MUNICIPAL SERVICES, FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE
Council Chambers B, Keene City Hall
September 22, 2021
6:00 PM

A. AGENDA ITEMS

1. Petition - Concerns Regarding Drainage - Barrett Avenue/Ingalls Street Neighborhood

B. MORE TIME ITEMS

1. Maintenance of the Wilson Pond Dam - City Manager

NON PUBLIC SESSION

ADJOURNMENT



CITY OF KEENE NEW HAMPSHIRE

ITEM #A.1.

Meeting Date: September 22, 2021

To: Mayor and Keene City Council

From: Skye Stephenson

John & Lucinda McKeon
and Justin Wakefield & Shannon Martin

Through: Patricia Little, City Clerk

Subject: **Petition - Concerns Regarding Drainage - Barrett Avenue/Ingalls Street
Neighborhood**

Council Action:

In City Council September 2, 2021.

Referred to the Municipal Services, Facilities and Infrastructure Committee.

Recommendation:

Attachments:

1. Communication_Barrett Avenue_Redacted

Background:

Residents of the Barrett Avenue/Ingalls Street area are expressing concerns related to drainage in the area and asking for installation of an asphalt berm to minimize flooding.

1 September 2021

Patty Little, Clerk
City of Keene
3 Washington St.
Keene, NH 03431

To Mayor and Council:

It is with surprise and disappointment that a month has passed since we made this neighborhood request to consider the drainage problem on Barrett Avenue/Ingalls Street, and have not received any response from city staff. In any case, we feel that time is of the essence since the asphalt companies close operations in late October and we would like to avert the flooding of another very wet spring and summer next year.

We have included the August 3, 2021 letter to the Keene City Public Works Department for your consideration and ask that we be heard at the next meeting of the appropriate city council standing committee meeting to consider our request.

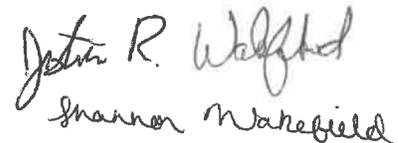
Sincerely,



Skye Stephenson
14 Barrett Avenue
Keene, NH 03431



John & Lucinda McKeon
22 Barrett Avenue
Keene, NH 03431



Justin Wakefield & Shannon Martin
1 Marshall Street
Keene, NH 03431



August 3, 2021

To Kurt Blomquist:

We are writing as three adjoining homeowners on the east side of Barrett Avenue between the Ingalls Street and Marshall Street intersections to request the placement of an asphalt berm alongside the street leading from the McKeon's driveway to the drainage grate at the corner of Barrett Ave and Marshall Street. This is very much needed to help protect our houses from the rapid flow of waters as they course down hill from the summit of Ingalls Street. This is a suggestion brought forward in a recent discussion with an Assistant City Engineer as the most cost effective and helpful way to help alleviate our flooding issues.

It is worthwhile to point out that even though our side of Barrett Ave (which is the low side) sustains significant direct water flows during heavy rains from the downhill slope of Ingalls Street, there has not ever been a culvert here. Other intersections with lesser slopes do have culverts in our area. In addition, Barrett Ave as it passes by our houses has paving that is not well crowned, which adds yet more water flow issues into our properties (and basements).

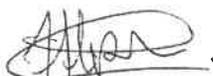
The neighborhood plot map from 1941 when the area was first developed indicates that our backyards, in particular 14 Barrett Avenue, is supposed to be the drainage area for this part of the neighborhood. At that time, there was no residence on the property, or the adjoining properties. It appears in the 1950s when the houses were built, the builders were not required to put in culverts at the intersection point of Barrett and Ingalls streets. Today, they most likely would have had to.

Given this situation combined with the weather patterns changes due to global warming, we kindly request that an asphalt berm be placed at the edge of our property lines and the street to help stem the flow of water and facilitate its movement to the nearest culvert. We have all experienced extensive groundwater flooding in our basements in the last two weeks that has caused property damage.

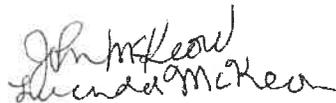
Last year two of us – the McKeon's and me – submitted a similar request to Public Works. Two members of the Department came to examine the property and indicated they would do some helpful remediation. We never heard back from them. We are hoping to have a more positive response this time.

Thank you for considering the petition and we are happy to provide additional information and documentation upon request. In our email submission, you will find attached visuals of the water flows and consequences on our street during heavy rain.

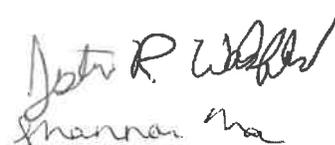
Sincerely,



Skye Stephenson
14 Barrett Avenue
skyeayona@gmail.com



John & Lucinda McKeon
22 Barrett Avenue



Justin Wakefield & Shannon Martin
1 Marshall Street

cc: City Manager