

CITY COUNCIL E-MAILS

ADDENDUM

Received: September 2, 2021 (after 9:00 a.m.) – September 7, 2021 (before 5:00 p.m.)

September 7, 2021 Council Meeting

New content:

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Jason Robichaud (jayro80@gmail.com) on Thursday, September 2, 2021 at 12:03:41

address: 77 holly lane

comments: Hello to my City Councilors,

I wanted to address a concern to you that we near Holly lane are experiencing. As our homes are aging we are noticing that it is time to start looking at new heating solutions. My current Burner is about 25-30 years old and puts out great heat but at about 80% fuel efficiency. I would love to upgrade it but I am being told by the Gas company that even though the City had them put a line down Sherburne it is not something they are interested in doing for Holly lane. They said that even if everyone on the street signed up for gas and then paid 5k it still would not be something the gas company would do. That was a little disturbing to hear. Gas burns the most efficiently but oil and propane are the only options we have. In our first year of owning our home, we spent close to 2k on heating where my fellow resident who has a home similar to our size spent 1k. Can the city help us out and work with us and the Utility company to offer service to us? As you know there are very few neighborhoods left in Portsmouth without Gas and I'd like to see that number go to none. If they can put a pipe down Sherburne they can put a pipe down Holly. A secondary reason would be the town's assessment of our property. Our home should be assessed a bit lower than others with more options for heating. You can not value my house the exact same as one on Sherburne that has gas as a heating option.

Thanks for taking some time to look into this.

Jason Robichaud

includeInRecords: on

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Keith Orr (keith.m.orr@gmail.com) on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 10:33:17

address: 260 Odiorne Point Rd, Portsmouth, NH

comments: Hello and thank you for this time to address the council. I hope to be at the meeting this evening, but I currently have a conflict that may cause me to miss it, so I am also sending this as an email.

My name is Keith Orr and I reside at 260 Odiorne Point Rd, here in Portsmouth. I am here to discuss the situation with the public water access easement at 193 Gosport Road in Portsmouth. I want to answer some questions regarding this issue and make the council aware of the situation.

Who uses the easement?

The easement was deeded to the city in 1999 for the use of public access to the Sagamore river. Historically this easement has been used by the Elwyn Park, Tuckers Cove, and Woodlands neighborhoods as the closest access to the Sagamore river. In the 20 years since the neighborhood was created I am not aware of any issues with using the easement until now.

What has changed that this is now in need of attention?

Over the course of the past year the path in the easement has been made narrower and more treacherous by new planting that has been installed by the property owner. What was originally a wide flat path has become 1/3 the size and in some places uneven terrain which makes it hard to navigate while carrying paddle boards or other personal watercraft.

Why does the city need to get involved?

The wording of the deed specifically states that the town and the property owner are responsible for the upkeep maintenance and grooming of the access. The actions of the current property owner do not represent the public's interest in

keeping the path accessible, so therefore the responsibility rests with the town. There have been multiple attempts to work with the property owner which have been unsuccessful. In particular, a letter was sent to the property owner around October of 2010, where residents introduced themselves to the new owner and asked to meet to discuss the easement and what could be done for the mutual benefit of the owner and public. There was no response from the owner, but later that week four truckloads of dirt were placed on the easement and more the 40 trees and plants were planted where there was previously a path over 12 feet wide.

What can be done?

We request that the city help to return the path to the original or better state that it previously was. This would include creating a wide flat safe path with clearly marked boundaries. In addition it would be beneficial to all parties to allow the public to groom the path inside those boundaries so that the path does not become overgrown in the future. At a minimum the city should post clear signage at the Gosport path access defining the easement as written and required in the deed.

Why should the city do this?

Public water access is an important right for all, especially when it is deeded to the city and its citizens. The town has a requirement to all of its citizens to do their best to ensure and retain those rights for current and future generations. I fear that without town engagement this access will be lost in the coming years.

Thank you for your time and please contact me with any questions or comments.

includeInRecords: on

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Scott Fales (sfales@hotmail.com) on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 13:08:52

address: 151 Aldrich Road

comments: Honorable Mayor and City Council, The speed hump on Aldrich Road has become a problem for those living in close proximity. Trucks are literally shaking houses as they pass over the speed hump. A flatbed truck lost part of its load last week when the driver flew over the speed hump. Cars are still speeding on Aldrich Road undeterred by the speed hump. I invite you to visit the Safer Streets Portsmouth Facebook page and watch videos that I posted. The speed hump needs to be marked and painted. Additionally, the other speed humps need to be installed on Aldrich Road, per the original proposal. But the real fix is enforcement! I ask you to address this problem facing the residents of Aldrich Road.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Fales

151 Aldrich Road

includeInRecords: on

Below is the result of your feedback form. It was submitted by Mary Lou McElwain (ml259@comcast.net) on Tuesday, September 7, 2021 at 15:36:37

address: 259 South Street

comments: I don't see this vote on the agenda for this eve meeting, however it could be under miscellaneous. There was an error in the contract for The Marriot and confusion/ misinformation regarding revenue from the meters on Portwalk Place and the number of valet parking spaces for the Marriot. The contract needs to be re written by the legal department and brought back to PTS for a vote. Councilor Whalen said the item in question would be corrected. The PTS committee should see the corrected contract before voting. We should not have voted on this at the 9/2 PTS meeting. This is an important contract and should be clear on every line before a vote.

Thank you.

Mary Lou McElwain , PTS committee member

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