

CITY COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE

Planning and Development

Wednesday, February 24, 2010 – 7:00 p.m.

1st Fl. Council Conference Room – 9 Dale Avenue, City Hall

Present: Chair, Councilor Joseph Ciolino; Vice-Chair, Councilor Robert Whynott; Councilor Greg Verga

Absent: None

Also Present: Councilor Jackie Hardy; Councilor Paul McGeary; Assistant Superintendent Brian Tarr; Jonathan Pope; Ed Weiderhold, DMSE; Peter Glynn and Chris Raymond, National Grid representative; Steve Palazzola

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. A Quorum of the City Council was present.

1. *Old Business*

A) GFAA Triathlon 2010

Councilor Verga stated he is a founding member and current member of the Board of the GFAA and has been advised that he can't participate in the discussion on this matter.

Councilor Ciolino asked Councilor McGeary to sit in on these matters.

Jonathan Pope, President, GFAA stated that as the conditions of the permits granted in late 2009 was conditioned that they were asked to come back if there were any changes in the course; and there are two in the Triathlon. The staging is the same, swimming is same. The bike route is now leaving St. Peter's Square, but then proceeds from transition area north on Washington Street, left onto Western Avenue for 3.5 miles; right onto Magnolia Avenue. At mile 5.75 riders make left onto Kondelin Road to end of Kondelin Road, make a U-turn; right back onto Magnolia Street; right onto Western Avenue; left onto Magnolia Avenue; left onto Norman Avenue, merging with Hesperus Avenue; right onto Western Avenue and make a right onto Washington Street back to transition area (St. Peter's Park). They needed to add the distance to have a viable race which is the 8th of August, the same event as last year. It is 1/3 mile swim off of Pavilion Beach; run up Beach Court through St. Peter's Square – participant's bicycles are all

parked there. They ride out on the route stated prior. This is all shown on the GFAA website. The finish line will be the same as last year.

Councilor Ciolino stated Lt. Aiello of the Gloucester Police Department indicated he had no problems with the changes.

Mr. Pope said there are changes in the run route which they also needed a little bit of length for it. They will do extensive outreach regarding road closures to the citizens of the affected areas.

Councilor Ciolino said they had talked of posting signage on Route 128 leading into Gloucester, and Mr. Pope said that will be in effect as previously agreed.

Mr. Pope introduced Mr. Weiderhold of Dave McGillivray Sports who will be running the 7 mile race for the GFAA. He noted the previous route and the changes asked for by starting at the Fisherman's Memorial Statue to Rogers Street, to East Main Street to Eastern Point Boulevard to Farrington Avenue, to Atlantic Road to Bass Avenue to East Main Street to Main Street to Western Avenue to finish at the Fishermen's Memorial Statue.

Councilor Hardy noted since beginning is at Fisherman's Statue how many people are expected.

Mr. Weiderhold said about 5,000.

Councilor Hardy wondered what they are doing to protect to the Fisherman's Monument.

Mr. Pope said the GFAA will do whatever the Committee recommends.

Councilor Hardy expressed concern due to the anticipated crowds of people in and around that area and felt there was a need for crowd control. She asked that the GFAA speak with Lt. Aiello.

Councilor Ciolino brought up the issue of comfort stations.

Mr. Weiderhold said they will be sure to put in many, and will work with the police and be sure to have them removed later that day.

Mr. Pope said they have gone into many discussions regarding the location of the comfort stations, and may put them at the retaining wall at the Tavern. They don't have definitive answer yet about their placement, but there will be a sufficient number.

Councilor Ciolino suggested they might want to consider what the St. Peter's Fiesta does using trailers and to speak with Joe Novello, the Fiesta chairman.

Mr. Weiderhold said they deal with it at the Boston Marathon so they are very aware of the issue.

Mr. Pope said this 7 mile race is the same day as the Waterfront Festival. It starts at 8 a.m. The elite runners will be done by 8:35 a.m. The non-elite who may walk will be done by 10 a.m. Their earlier request was after the award ceremony would be at Stage Fort Park, but will do it just below the tree line by the tennis courts so as not to infringe on the Waterfront Festival. As people register they will let them know about the suggested parking areas.

Councilor Ciolino asked Mr. Pope to forward Lt. Aiello's recommendations to the Committee.

Councilor McGeary asked if Angle Street intersects Western Avenue as described.

Mr. Pope said that is part of the route and is what Mapquest said but can take it out to read correctly. He also noted that as soon as this passes at the City Council on March 2nd, he will arrange a meeting with Lt. Aiello, Chief Dench of the Fire Department, and Mike Hale to discuss the issues raised at this evening's meeting.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor Whynott, the Planning and Development Committee voted 3 in favor (Ciolino, Whynott, McGeary), 0 opposed, to recommend to the City Council to accept the amendments to the route and street closures for the Gloucester Fisherman's Athletic Association's (GFAA) Triathlon of August 8, 2010 as submitted to by the GFAA on its February 15, 2010 request as follows with all other terms and conditions remaining in force:

Riders proceed from transition area north on Washington Street, left onto Western Avenue for 3.5 miles; right onto Magnolia Avenue. At mile 5.75 riders make left onto Kondelin Road to end of Kondelin Road, make a U-turn; right back onto Magnolia Street; right onto Western Avenue; left onto Magnolia Avenue; left onto Norman Avenue, merging with Hesperus Avenue; right onto Western Avenue and make a right onto Washington Street back to transition area (St. Peter's Park).

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor Whynott, the Planning and Development Committee recommended 3 in favor (Ciolino, Whynott, McGeary), 0 opposed, 1 abstention (Verga) to recommend to the City Council to accept the amendments to the route and street closures for the Gloucester Fisherman's Athletic Association's (GFAA) Run Gloucester 7-Mile Road Race (previously known as the Gloucester Classic 10k) of August 22, 2010 as submitted to by the GFAA on its February 15, 2010 request as follows with all other terms and conditions remaining in force:

8:00 a.m. start at the Fisherman's Memorial Statue on Stacey Boulevard to Rogers Street to East Main Street to Eastern Point Boulevard to Farrington Avenue to Atlantic Road to Bass Avenue to East Main Street to Main Street to Western Avenue to finish at the Fisherman's Memorial Statue with following additional condition;

1. That the Fisherman at the Wheel Statue be roped off so as to protect it from the crowds as in accordance with the written instructions to be provided by Lt. Joseph Aiello.

Councilor Verga returned to the table for voting purposes.

2. *Unfinished Business*

A) Mayor's Report Addendum dated February 2, 2010 re: Facilities Management Report

(Cont'd from February 12, 2010)

Councilor Ciolino stated this matter will be taken up after the City Council meeting on March 2, 2010.

By unanimous consent, the matter was continued to March 24, 2010.

B) CC2010-006 (Hardy) Review Fee Structure under Sec. 5.7.3 of the Gloucester

Zoning Ordinance on Major Projects and to review obligations of applicant to provide reproducible plan(s) and to review the application forms for all special permits (Cont'd from 02/12/2010)

Councilor Hardy said she has been working with Mr. Cademartori and reaching out to other communities to do comparisons.

By unanimous consent the matter was continued to March 24, 2010.

C) Request from National Grid re: Installation of 4-way duct bank from existing

manhole 540-A to existing riser poles 42 and 41-A via proposed manholes, Cherry

Street, Gloucester (Cont'd from December 9, 2009)

The public hearing is continued.

Speaking in favor: Chris Raymond and Peter Glynn, representatives of National Grid

Chris Raymond, National Grid Representative, stated that he had spoken to Mr. Tarr, Assistant Superintendent of Schools after the last meeting of P&D; and Mr. Tarr said it was impossible to do the road work during the school year and so National Grid decided to only do it during the summer months. He told Mr. Tarr it should take no more than three weeks.

Mr. Tarr said the island up above the O'Maley School where there are cars coming and going on Osman Babson Road is a very difficult traffic issue before and after school. With the sports taking place on the campus of the O'Maley School between the Talbot Rink and the sports fields, he also requested that they do the work when school was out. There is too much traffic. It would only take one person getting hurt. Because there are also youth programs on the school campus during the summer, he wanted to make sure there are no hazards out on the road and to barricade off the work area for the evening after work stops each day – make it safe. He will be available to work with National Grid through the summer.

Speaking in opposition: None.

Communications: Memo from Michael B. Hale, DPW Director (on file).

This public hearing is closed.

Councilor Ciolino discussed the conditions that would be placed on National Grid's finish work based on Mr. Hale's memorandum. They want to be sure that after the work is done; after time passes the road remains intact.

Councilor Hardy noted the only way out on Reservoir Road and wanted to be sure residents have a way in and out of their homes.

Mr. Raymond said the issue is that there is one manhole, and the opposing way is on Cherry Street and that could be an issue for Reservoir Road and showed on the map they had previously provided (on file) that there would be appropriate egress to the Committee's satisfaction and that one lane would always be open for passage of the neighbors.

Mr. Tarr asked about weather impacting the timeframe of the work.

Mr. Raymond said if the cable that exists now fails under the road then there would be a problem and that would impact the work because it would have to be repaired at the same time. That would be a difficult traffic issue. To run the repair on both lines would be a serious problem as they would have to suspend work on the conduit and do the repair. However, even if that occurred, he doesn't see this running over to September.

Mr. Tarr reiterated his concern that the work has to be done on time before the start of school.

Councilor Whynott urged the National Grid representatives to start right at the beginning of the work 'window' so if things do go wrong you have enough time to finish the work.

Mr. Raymond said the work should only go down four feet, preferably five feet at most; and there will be dig safe in place. It will all be below ground. The existing green box remains the same. He assured that the work will take three weeks.

MOTION: On motion of Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor Whynott, the Planning and Development Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed to recommend to the City Council to grant permission to National Grid, Malden, MA to construct a line of electric conduits, including the necessary sustaining and protecting fixtures under and across the public way or ways hereinafter named and further given permission to run and maintain underground electric conduits, together with such sustaining and protecting fixtures as it may find necessary for the transmission of electricity. Said underground conduits to be located substantially in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked National Grid, UG-WR#7722673-1 10/16/09 for the purpose of the installation of 4-way duct bank using six (6) inch pvc conduits encased in concrete from existing manhole 540-A to the existing riser poles 42 and 41-A via proposed manholes on Cherry Street in Gloucester, MA with the following conditions:

- 1. Construction can only take place from July 5, 2010 to August 15, 2010.**
- 2. Street paving shall be in accordance with DPW standard as outlined herewith:**
 - A) DPW to be notified 72 hours in advance of the proposed work;**
 - B) All proposed lines and /or conduits are placed so as to cause minimum conflict with other underground services and mains;**
 - C) The excavated trench shall be patched flush with the surrounding asphalt using hot mix asphalt binder, applied in two lifts of 2-inches, totaling 4-inches;**
 - D) Grind 2-inches; curb line to curb line within area of excavation (as per Memorandum from DPW Director Michael B. Hale dated February 24, 2010);**
 - E) Cut keyways on north and south side excavation on Cherry Street;**
 - F) Install 2-inch hot mix asphalt top course pavement with emulsion sprayed on prepared surfaces, including all joints.**

3. 18-month bond to be purchased for the construction duration.
4. No water shall be pumped from underground structures or conduits onto public streets and ways.

3. *Request from National Grid re: Installation of 1-2” conduit and service wire for 4-6 Grapevine Road*

This public hearing is open.

Speaking in Favor:

Mr. Peter Glynn, representing National Grid is seeking permission to install five feet of conduit. The customer has asked to remove overhead lines and go underground.

Councilor Ciolino noted it appeared work has already been started when he went by the site.

Mr. Glynn said he, too, went by the site and noted National Grid requirements block anything happening at a site before the pole petition is heard. The only thing they do is make the connection. They actually own the wire going up the pole. The work done so far is by the homeowner. Sometimes it happens that homeowners jump the gun. There is no sidewalk at that location. Usually the homeowner is responsible for the digging.

Councilor Ciolino asks that National Grid to clean up the side of the road upon completion of their work.

Speaking in Opposition: None.

Communications: None.

This public hearing is closed.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Ciolino, seconded by Councilor Verga, the Planning and Development Committee voted 3 in favor, 0 opposed to recommend to the City Council to approve the petition submitted by National Grid for the installation of approximately 5 feet of conduit northeast from pole #900 to #4 Grapevine Road to accommodate an electric service upgrade. Said underground conduit to be located substantially in accordance with the plan filed herewith marked National Grid, UG-WR#8046390. With the following condition:

1. No water shall be pumped from underground structures or conduits onto public streets and ways.

2. The shoulder of the road shall be returned to its pre-construction condition.

Mr. Glynn gave some standards on their poles from National Grid for the Committee's information.

Councilor Ciolino asked for some information on the double pole situations around the City and spoke to the DPW Director about who owns what and the contact names and telephone numbers. He understood the dilemma that National Grid can't change the wires because Verizon owns the pole, etc.

Mr. Glynn gave the Inspector of Buildings his contact information on Verizon for this area and understood the need for contact information on Comcast, AT&T also. He described his efforts in attempting to work with Comcast and noted there was no easy way to work with them. Like members of the general public, he must call their '800' number and go through their system to reach anyone at all.

Councilor Hardy asked about 401A Essex Avenue easement (Cape Ann Animal Aid), a matter taken up in Planning & Development Committee in December 2009.

Mr. Glynn had no information, but will get it and will forward it on.

4. COM2010-008: Report from Planning Board re: under Zoning Ordinance Sec. 1.11, Proposed Zoning Amendments to Sections 2.2.1, 2.3, 5.5, 5.8 and 5.18 relating to the 43D Priority Development Site and 2009 Harbor Plan Recommendations

Councilor Ciolino said that this report was received by P&D and a presentation made by Mr. Cademartori at the February 12th meeting. No action is necessary at this time by the Committee. A public hearing on the matter will be held on March 2, 2010 at the City Council Meeting.

5. COM2010-009: Planning Board re: Under Zoning Ordinance Sec. 1.11, Initiation of Zoning Amendments to the GZO Sections 2.3.6 Other Principal Uses and Section 5.22 Commercial Land-based Wind Energy Conversion Facilities in large-lot, low density residential zoning districts (R-80, R-40 and R-30)

Councilor Ciolino stated this matter will be continued since more information was needed on the matter; and Mr. Cademartori could not be at the meeting this evening.

By unanimous consent this matter was continued awaiting a proposal from the Planning Board and then be rescheduled.

6. Other Business

There was a discussion between the Committee regarding the start time, and suggested a new start time of 6:30 p.m. going forward.

MOTION: It was moved, seconded and voted UNANIMOUSLY to adjourn Planning & Development meeting at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dana C. Jorgenson

Clerk of the Committees