

The Claremont City Council held a meeting on Wednesday, October 11, 2006, in the Council Chambers of City Hall.

Members of the Council present were:

Michael Prozzo, Jr. (Late)
Deborah Cutts
Heather Bopp
Assistant Mayor Christopher Irish
Mayor Scott Pope
Andrew Austin
Ralph Swift
James Neilsen, IV

Absent Member:

William Regan, III

Also present were:

Guy Santagate, City Manager
Jane Taylor, City Solicitor

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Pope at 6:32 p.m.

MAYOR'S NOTES

Mayor Pope noted the Farmer's Market is a success for the third year in a row and that this is the last week. He recognized the board members, Bob Bacon, Liza Draper, Bruce McCormick, Kurt Merrill, Marilyn Nagy, Ruth Preston and Susan Sadonsky. The Claremont Fall Festival was a great success last Saturday. He recognized Scott Hausler and his staff for their work on the Fall Festival and the Farmer's Market. He thanked the members of the Open Space Ordinance Committee for their work. The Claremont Police versus the Fire Department basketball game will be on October 14th with funds going to the Police and Fire Associations. He mentioned the Sawtooth building work has begun and the area is getting cleaned up. He talked a bit about the mill projects and the respected people working on them. The funding for the pedestrian bridge or "bridge to nowhere" is the result of a grant that has been in planning since 1999 or 2000. The bridge creates a link between the mills and some previously talked about recreation in that area. There have been concerns about the money being spent for infrastructure repairs down by the mills. The infrastructure repairs would have had to have been done regardless if the mills had been purchased or not. The buyers of the mills help provide a funding mechanism for the repairs to help take the burden off the taxpayers.

Mr. Santagate thinks the track at Monadnock Park has become a focal point of the community. While at the track he met Mr. Wittemore who is participating in the Senior Olympics and he wished him good luck.

Mr. Irish recognized Ken Walsh, Chief Building and Code Enforcement Officer, for all that he's done and he publicly gave Mr. Walsh the Council's support. Because of Mr. Walsh's efforts, the codes are being enforced accurately, consistently and fairly. He read some of Mr. Walsh's qualifications that are listed through the Independent Services Organization (ISO). Since the beginning of Mr. Walsh's tenure, the City's ISO rating has gone from a 6 (which is terrible) to a 3 (which is very good). Mr. Irish said the Council owes Mr. Walsh a public showing of support and the Council nodded in agreement.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

A motion was made by Mr. Austin and seconded by Ms. Bopp to accept the minutes of the September 13, 2006, City Council meeting.

Motion carried 7-0.

APPOINTMENT TO BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Trustees of Trust Funds

Mayor Pope appointed Tawnya Courtemanche to seat #2 on the board of Trustees of Trust Funds in September 2006.

OLD BUSINESS

Boston Cane Discussion

Mayor Pope read the history of the Boston Post Cane. It is given to the oldest living member of the community. It has been almost a year since it was last awarded. He checked with other towns and they keep the cane and a roll call with the recipients' names on it, but a plaque is given to the recipient. In November 2005, the cane was returned to the city. Mayor Pope received no responses to an ad placed in the paper for a new cane recipient. He asked for suggestions on how we can continue the tradition and suggested a future discussion on this.

Ms. Cutts hopes we hear from the public and thinks it is a valuable tradition. She thinks the City should keep the cane and give the recipient a token.

CITIZEN'S FORUM

Joe Simoneau, Ward 3, said there are a lot of outraged people because of the unknown tax rate. Some have said that thanks to Mr. Santagate, there is a lot of new growth in town, but if you look around, there is not one depressed area in New Hampshire that hasn't done well in the last five

years. He said the \$10,000 bonus for the City Manager has outraged some residents because they are not sure how they can pay their own bills. He thinks the Council should listen to residents on where the city is headed. He thinks the city is headed down. He thinks the Council should look at what residents want. He said we don't need a bridge across the Sugar River, because in the summer time, it smells bad.

NEW BUSINESS

United Way Transportation Update

Kelly Murphy, Executive Director of the United Way of Sullivan County, talked about the community mobility project. She read a summary about Deputy Commissioner Nick Toumpas sharing preliminary information about the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS) proposed transportation brokerage. This provides transportation options to Medicaid and TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) clients. A Transportation Summit was held and it was decided they wanted a task force to move the issue forward. The United Way took the lead to launch the Community Mobility Project. They are working with Representative Bev Rodeschin to support a legislative bill that would eliminate insurance discrimination against volunteer drivers. The end result is seeing people getting where they need to go. The collaboration will bring the Red Cross program, Cancer Society program, and the public transportation providers together to come up with a better network. The options are endless; the senior issues and any medical needs are the number one focus.

Ms. Bopp noted that Visiting Nurses used to take seniors on errands and to doctors appointments, but that has ceased and now they must depend on family and friends.

At 7:13 p.m., Mr. Irish stepped out.

Ms. Murphy said that need has been recognized.

Mayor Pope asked about involvement of other State Representatives in the area. Ms. Murphy said she is not sure if they are aware of the new crafting of the language, but they will be. She said Representative Rodeschin is getting more support from senior groups. The language has to be very specific. The Maine legislation, prohibiting an increase in insurance policy rates, policy cancellation or total denial of coverage based solely upon being a volunteer driver, has been very successful. The State of Vermont's state policy is a back-up insurance provider for any of these volunteer drivers. DHHS is looking at that as well.

Ms. Cutts said Ms. Murphy is headed in the right direction as she has seen it from the other side during her work at the Veteran's Hospital. She suggested Ms. Murphy contact the DAV (Disabled American Veterans) for their past practices. Ms. Murphy said the DAV was part of the summit.

At 7:21 p.m., Mr. Irish returned.

New Community Center Update

John Napsey, announced the new leadership (tri-chairs are Tawnya Coutermarsh, Jeff Goff and John Napsey) for the campaign. He reviewed the \$1 million challenge. The process to receive the 501c3 status took until late March 2006. They reviewed the Veterans Park and National Guard Armory sites. The existing Armory building will require major renovations and additions to accommodate the new community center. This process took about two months. They spent the summer determining if a privately-owned site was appropriate for the project. At this time, they would like to keep this potential site and donor private. They would be willing to discuss it in a non-public forum with the Council if the Council desires. They met with representatives from Senator Sununu's, Senator Gregg's, Executive Councilor Burton's and Senator Odell's staffs on the potential acquisition of the current community center site by the U.S. Postal Service. They are awaiting an update by Senator Sununu's office. The fundraising efforts have been constant. The effort to build relationships with potential lead donors is ongoing and it is done with the privacy and respect of the potential donor being the first priority. Reviewing alternate sites is being respectful to potential donors and providing due diligence to support their potential offer. Expenses as of October 3, 2006, are \$74,500. They include legal fees, architectural work, campaign software and consulting services. They have requested a suspension of services from the Hartsook Corporation to allow the reorganization of the leadership, find new legal counsel and make necessary changes within the guidelines of the group's incorporated status. He said this is a response to the loss of Mr. Feleen's leadership and involvement and he asked that everyone remember that they are volunteers. They anticipate reinstating Hartsook Corporation by May 1, 2007, or before. He asked for stronger involvement by the Council and for a liaison between the City and the New Community Center for Claremont group to serve on the Coordination Committee. They agree with the concept that was used for the track, but believe the City has a larger role in this project, because the \$1 million challenge grant is public money and \$3 million of the \$7 million goal is to come from state and federal sources. He thanked the Council and the City for their support.

There was discussion about a packet that was distributed by the Community Center Committee with proposals of a new site that had been received by almost all members of the Council, excluding Mr. Swift, at their homes and whether or not the documents were public. Ms. Taylor said she would have to see what was in the packet before she could determine the legal right to keep it private or not. Mr. Santagate said if we get a right-to-know request, we'll have to make that packet public. Mr. Goff made it clear that the donor had requested his name be kept private. The property has tremendous potential and they do not want to compromise the donor's request.

Mr. Neilsen said he would like to see us not be so rigid. He is upset that we are already concerned about the time clock. Even if the time is up and the money is short, he is looking at the effort. He doesn't know that the \$1 million match is fixed to a timeline. He thinks it is more of an incentive that the City is saying if we see a commitment from a group of volunteers and they show real effort, he thinks the City would show an equal effort behind it. Mr. Irish agreed with Mr. Neilsen

GIS (Geographic Information Systems) Award Presentation

Mary Walter, Finance Director, explained that Dale Giles is the driving force behind most of the technological advances in the city. She gave some background information on Mr. Giles's work with computers for the city which started in 1989. He has worked, on his own time, with the Sullivan County ATV Club to map all the miles of OHRV (off highway recreational vehicle) trails and will work with the snowmobile club to do the same. He helped bring cable access TV to Claremont. ESRI, a leading developer of GIS software, in California, awarded Claremont the SAG (Special Achievement in GIS) award for exceptional work in using GIS technology which is due to Mr. Giles hard work. Mr. Giles was presented a plaque and certificate.

Police Chief Alex Scott explained the benefit of GIS for public safety, allowing dispatch to get online in order to find exactly where a house is and he thanked Mr. Giles for his hard work.

Motion to Authorize Purchase of Salt Shed on City-Owned Property

Bruce Temple, Public Works Director, said the children of Paul Craig, CNI Construction, Inc., offered to sell the large dome salt shed at the Public Works yard. In 1995, the City entered a lease agreement with CNI which was to last for 20 years. Mr. Craig passed away and we have an opportunity to purchase the building, which cost approximately \$165,000 at that time to build, for \$15,000. Mr. Temple said he intends to use it for salt although it has never had salt in it; it has been used to store equipment. As time passes, it will require some maintenance. It is in good shape. We can store 200-300 ton of salt which will allow bulk purchase of salt.

A motion was made by Ms. Bopp and seconded by Mr. Swift to authorize the City Manager or his designee to purchase the salt shed located at the Department of Public Works Facility at 8 Grandview Street for an amount not to exceed \$15,000, subject to determination that there are no encumbrances of title, said sum to be taken from the Department of Public Works 2006 budget.

Mr. Swift asked about the \$15,000 and what we have to give up. Ms. Walter said the street light budget is below what was budgeted.

Motion carried 7-0.

Resolution 2006-24 Overspend Welfare Department Budget Up to \$90,000 – Public Hearing

Mary Walter said the Welfare Department, as of this week, has had more clients in 2006 than in all of 2005. Just this week, they have had more clients than in all of October 2005. The rents are high. There will be some changes to the TANF law which next year will impact us significantly and the State and Federal governments have tightened their laws, thereby pushing people down to the city level. As of right now, the Welfare Department has spent 96% of its budget for this

year. So, we are asking for permission to overspend the budget. By law we have to give assistance for those that are eligible. There is no residency requirement other than to be in Claremont. The Welfare Department has collected \$40,000 in reimbursements so far this year which will go to help offset the increase that is being asked for.

Mayor Pope wanted it known that Suzanne Carr, Welfare Director, is doing a good job in the Welfare Department and the increase in expenses should not reflect badly upon her.

A motion was made by Mr. Neilsen and seconded by Ms. Cutts to adopt Resolution 2006-24 Overspend Welfare Department Budget Up to \$90,000.

Mayor Pope opened the public hearing. No one spoke. He closed the public hearing.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 7-0.

Authorization for CDA (Claremont Development Authority) to Accept BFA (Business and Finance Authority) Loan for the Brown Block

Mr. Santagate gave a review of the Brown Block status. The City has been involved in trying to close the funding gap (\$450,000). The state agreed to loan the money to the CDA. It will take over \$2 million to bring the building up to code. The \$450,000 is the only loan that has to be repaid and we think it is a minimal risk to the CDA and to the City. It will be repaid over seven years (interest only). The funds will come from the tenants who will occupy the building. In case of default, we will have a first mortgage on the building. The CDA is a part of the City in respect to liability. This closes the financial impasse on that building. He gave credit to the Main Street group, CDA and Anthony Lyons, Planning and Development Director, who have worked hard for the project.

Joe Gorman, Chairman of the CDA, said this is a complicated transaction. The CDA will loan the money to the development organization, which has another \$2 million or so lined up to put into the project. It will be an interest-only loan for seven years. There will be a balloon payment in seven years (to pay the \$450,000). The CDA will hold the first mortgage.

Mr. Austin asked if Main Street will still own the building. Mr. Gorman said it will be turned over to the Monadnock Development organization which will be developing a separate LLC for the development. Mr. Austin asked about the original financing through Main Street. Mr. Lyons said that Main Street will recoup all the costs that they have put in and Claremont Savings Bank, who holds the mortgage now, will be paid in full at the time of closing when this new financing mechanism is put into place.

Ms. Cutts asked for the plans of the building. Mr. Lyons said they will recondition the interior and the exterior, including six apartments upstairs and up to four commercial spaces downstairs.

A motion was made by Ms. Cutts and seconded by Mr. Austin to authorize the City Manager or his designee to accept a \$450,000.00 loan from the New Hampshire Business Finance Authority on behalf of the Claremont Development Authority, said funds to be used to capitalize a loan to Brown Block, LLC, for restoration of the Brown Block.

Motion carried 7-0.

Acceptance of \$80 Gift of Bike Helmets from Claremont Cycle Depot

Chief Scott said the Claremont Cycle Depot has been very supportive of the Police Department for the last several years. The cost for each helmet is \$39.99. He thanked them for their gift and asked the Council to accept the gift with thanks.

A motion was made by Ms. Bopp and seconded by Mr. Neilsen to accept the \$80 gift of bike helmets from Claremont Cycle Depot with sincere thanks.

Motion carried 7-0.

Acceptance of \$150 Gift of Lamps from the Independent Order of Oddfellows

Mike Grace, Library Director, said that two reading lamps with magnifying lenses have been received from the Woodbury Rebekah Lodge #61 and the Sullivan Lodge #12, Independent Order of Oddfellows.

A motion was made by Mr. Neilsen and seconded by Ms. Bopp to accept the \$150 gift of lamps from the Independent Order of Oddfellows with extreme gratitude.

Motion carried 7-0.

Ordinance #478 Amending the Non-Union Employee Classification Plan – First Reading

Chief Scott said the Prosecuting Attorney position is not an additional body, it would be renaming or reclassifying an existing position. This will allow the Police Department to hire an attorney to be the police prosecutor. DWI enforcement and laws are heavily litigated and a non-attorney police prosecutor is at a significant disadvantage when it comes to motion practice.

The part-time Police Information Systems position is to assist with the ongoing maintenance and development of the IMC computer software system (police records management function). This will eventually allow officers to do real time reports in their cruisers and will allow ongoing training for the officers.

Ms. Cutts asked for a clarification of which position is being reclassified. Chief Scott said this replaces a Lieutenant or Deputy Chief position that has not been filled. Ms. Cutts asked if we will expect an impact by not having an officer out and about on the street. Chief Scott said this does not mean there will be one less officer, because there is currently a police officer filling that

role. The part-time Prosecutor Detective assists in that role as well. The value of the part-time officer is his mentoring skills and investigative skills. The team is made up of a full-time officer who is prosecuting with the assistance of a part-time Prosecutor Detective (assisting in prosecution and handling major case investigations). The officer that is currently doing the job will be “boots on the street.” It is preferred that the new Prosecuting Attorney be a sworn police officer as well as an attorney.

Chief Scott said he is authorized 24 sworn officers, but he is down 3 positions.

Ms. Taylor noted that the Personnel Advisory Board has approved the change. Chief Scott said the Police Commission has reviewed and endorsed this as well.

Mayor Pope read the explanation.

A motion was made by Ms. Cutts and seconded by Ms. Bopp to adopt Ordinance #478 Amending the Non-Union Employee Classification Plan on first reading.

Mr. Swift asked if the part-time position is an additional position. Chief Scott said it is a new part-time position. He has money in his existing budget to cover the cost. His authorized allotment of part-time officers based on last year’s budget is not full.

Mr. Austin asked if Chief Scott had somebody in mind for the Prosecuting Attorney position. Chief Scott said he is talking to someone but won’t progress until after the Council approves this position.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 7-0.

At 9:08 p.m., Mr. Irish left the Chambers.

Resolution 2006-23 TAN (Tax Anticipation Note) Authorization – Public Hearing

Ms. Walter said that we have no approval from the County to set the tax rate. While we wait, we may need to have a TAN authorized, but we’ll probably borrow from the water and sewer on a short-term basis. The approval will keep the city going.

Ms. Bopp clarified that the tax rate has not been set because the County is having issues. Ms. Walter confirmed that we generally set it around the first week of October.

At 9:10 a.m., Mr. Irish returned.

Ms. Walter said we are asking the County delegation to intervene, but it could be two more weeks before it is set.

A motion was made by Mr. Neilsen and seconded by Mr. Austin to adopt Resolution 2006-23 TAN (Tax Anticipation Note) Authorization.

Mayor Pope would like tracking information be presented to the Council if the money has to be borrowed.

Mayor Pope opened the public hearing. No one spoke. He closed the public hearing.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 7-0.

Resolution 2006-25 Overspend Policy Department Budget Up to \$10,000 – Public Hearing

Ms. Walter said this is the \$10,000 bonus for the City Manager that was approved by the Council. The Council had approved it to be taken from Fund Balance which would require a meeting to raise and appropriate the money, but allowing the Policy budget to be overspent can be approved this way. The City Manager is not expected to spend all of his budget and there would be enough to cover this expenditure.

Mr. Neilsen said he originally voted against the \$10,000 bonus and would, therefore, vote against this resolution to fund it. His vote against is not a dislike for Mr. Santagate or his performance, but it was the dialogue about what people felt the appropriate bonus was. Mayor Pope confirmed Mr. Neilsen was one of the dissenters.

A motion was made by Mr. Irish and seconded by Mr. Swift to adopt Resolution 2006-25 Overspend Policy Department Budget Up to \$10,000.

Mayor Pope opened the public hearing. No one spoke. He closed the public hearing.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 6-1 with Mr. Neilsen voting no.

At 9:17 p.m., Mr. Prozzo arrived.

Amendment to Council Rules

Ms. Taylor has had a considerable number of inquiries on what constitutes a “meeting” and what communications are appropriate outside regular Council meetings. She took the rules adopted by the Planning Board 18 months ago, which included an extensive area on communications and then she reformatted them for the Council. Both the proposed change and the excerpt from the Planning Board By-laws were in the Council packet. In order to adopt this amendment at this meeting, the Council will have to have a unanimous consent to suspend Council Rules, under rule #48. A 2/3 vote is needed to adopt the change.

Ms. Taylor said Councilors also have expressed a desire for clarification on the ground rules for public hearings, but that has not been drafted, as she would like further clarification.

A motion was made by Mr. Neilsen and seconded by Mr. Prozzo to suspend the rules to adopt new rule #49.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 8-0.

Mayor Pope explained that he was willing to suspend the rules only to pass this item and no others, because it has already been discussed by the Claremont Planning Board and is in their by-laws.

Mr. Prozzo would like to have it done because it is already being done by another board and there is consistency.

A motion was made by Mr. Prozzo and seconded by Ms. Bopp to adopt the amendment to the Council Rules.

Mr. Swift said if taken literally that he can't even talk to his constituents. Ms. Taylor said yes, but there is a reasonable reading that says a person who has an interest in, is usually construed as someone who has more than just a general interest. Interest in is someone who would be directly affected by a matter. A conversation can happen, but it would have to be disclosed.

At 9:29 p.m., Mr. Austin stepped out and returned at 9:32 p.m.

It was agreed that it was best to disclose to the Council and leave it to them whether a Councilor should step down or not.

Ms. Taylor said that e-mails or conversations to schedule meetings, set up the order of the agenda or procedural requirements (non-substantive issues) are not a problem. The question is, does the communication outside the public meeting invite a response. Once someone replies and the communication involves multiple Councilors, a meeting may have been created. Even a string of e-mails can be a meeting. The bottom line is to communicate in public. The Planning Board has had this in effect since April 2005 and has not had any problems.

Roll Call Vote: Motion carried 8-0.

The Council had a discussion about changing the order of the City Manager's Report on the agenda in the rules with Mayor Pope and Mr. Prozzo agreeing it should be before Citizen's Forum. Mr. Santagate said the benefit of being late is the ability to address issues that are brought up that night. Mr. Irish disagreed with making it early because it would take away the City Manager's chance to respond. It was agreed that if during the meeting a response was needed by the City Manager, then he should respond.

Mr. Neilsen asked if the purpose of revising the agenda is to make it more time concise. He suggested that people take five minutes to address the agenda item and then move on; and to also stay on topic.

Mr. Irish agrees in part with Mr. Neilsen. He thinks the City Manager's Report should be moved to after the Citizen's Forum.

Ms. Cutts supports moving it up is because it meets constituents' needs. She agrees with Mr. Neilsen about going off topic, but she doesn't want to cut the amount of discussion, because she wants to be well informed. She agrees with moving it to after Citizen's Forum.

Ms. Bopp thinks moving the City Manager's Report to after Citizen's Forum may become confrontational. After Old Business, the City Manager can say his piece there won't be much give and take or be adversarial. She agrees that "cross talk" between the Council definitely needs to stop (especially for her). She agreed she doesn't want to limit speaking.

Mr. Swift has no preference for where the City Manager's Report is on the agenda, but he wanted to know Mr. Santagate's opinion. Mr. Santagate doesn't mind where it is now, but when the hour is late, he cuts it short. He doesn't mind moving it according to the Council's wishes.

Ms. Taylor reminded the Council, in reference to limitation of debate, of its own rule #15, which is close to Robert's Rules.

Mr. Irish asked for guidelines in the rules regarding the public speaking on an agenda item. Mr. Prozzo suggested for a public hearing that there be a five minute time limit per speaker and allow them to speak again if there is time.

Ms. Bopp thinks the Council can suspend the rules to accommodate someone who wants to speak more than five minutes on an agenda item.

Ms. Taylor advised against doing anything without seeing it in writing. She clarified that public input can be received during Citizen's Forum and public hearings. She said agenda items without a public hearing need to have express Council permission for a member of the public to speak. She can attempt to draft a rule that would set out some guidelines for both public input on agenda items without public hearing and guidelines for public hearing.

Since there is no consensus, Mayor Pope would like the Council to think about this and to put it on the agenda for the next meeting.

A motion was made by Ms. Cutts and seconded by Mr. Prozzo to direct the City Manager's Report be put on the agenda after Old Business and before Citizen's Forum.

Mayor Pope clarified that this is a directive only.

Mr. Irish thinks it should be after Citizen's Forum, not before. Mayor Pope thinks it should be after Citizen's Forum, but after all the discussion wouldn't mind leaving it where it is for now. Mr. Austin agreed it should be left where it is.

Voice Vote: Division of the Votes.

A motion was made by Mr. Irish and seconded by Mr. Swift to table this discussion.

Motion to table carried 8-0.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Mr. Santagate pointed out that Anthony Lyons, Planning and Development Director, has accepted an offer to take a position in Gainesville, Florida. It is with mixed emotions Mr. Santagate makes this announcement. It is a loss for the City, but a good reflection on the City. Gainesville has about 250,000 people with a couple of colleges that have about 40,000 to 60,000 students. Mr. Santagate spoke highly of Mr. Lyons and wished him the best.

Mr. Santagate passed on Larry Beswick's apologies for not being ready with the skateboard park presentation for this meeting. We'll try to get him on the November agenda.

The widening of Route 103 from Claremont to Kelleyville gives us only one driving lane for a while which will cause some inconveniences. Sugar River Drive, on the Newport side, is not open due to damage from last year's rains.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND DIRECTIVES

Mayor Pope thought it would be a good idea to have the New Hampshire Municipal Association look over the Open Space Ordinance for redundancies. We would need a review committee to look at their results. He said he would like to look into it a lot more. Mayor Pope asked for an okay from the Council and the Council approved.

Mayor Pope said the meeting between the School and the Council will be October 25th, in the John Goodrich Community Room at the Sugar River Valley Tech Center, at 7 p.m., and he will send out an agenda to the Council.

Ms. Bopp asked for an update on the Open Space Ordinance Committee. She had heard that the Committee didn't have any objectives. Mayor Pope said the committee is working well, they are looking over Ordinance #474, getting used to each others philosophies, picking different ideas apart, listing them and doing a lot of organizing. They are doing a good job.

Mayor Pope said there have been concerns from businesses about pseudo gangs. He would like to ask the police what it would take for them to get on top of it. There is a small group of people tearing stuff up, but the vast majority of the kids in this town are good kids. He asked what the police need for help (state or dedicated officer). Mr. Santagate said there is a meeting with the merchants at Hullabaloo on October 16th at 7 p.m. and the Police Chief will be there to address the problem.

Mr. Irish would like to see what the Council can do to draft an ordinance of some type to outlaw the sale of drug paraphernalia in the city.

Mr. Irish would like to see an ordinance that prohibits placards/advertising on the public right-of-way. Mr. Santagate said several letters have gone out and violators will be fined. Ms. Taylor said the ordinance may need updating. In theory they are not supposed to go up in the first place.

Ms. Cutts talked about a curfew in the city and that Chief Scott said that citizens are the eyes and ears of the community.

Robert Woodman said there was an active CARES group in town, and he suggested it would be a benefit to help them with gas expenses in order to get more eyes and ears on the street.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Solid Waste Committee

No report given at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10:34 p.m., a motion was made by Mr. Prozzo and seconded by Ms. Cutts to adjourn.

Motion carried 8-0.

CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL

Respectfully Submitted,

Dorée M. Russell
Clerk to the Council