



CITY OF BELFAST

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Belfast, Maine 04915

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MANAGER'S REPORT
Belfast City Council Meeting
Wednesday, July 5, 2023

5:30 p.m. Request to go into Executive Session on a Legal Matter with the City Attorney pursuant to 1 M.R.S.A. 405 (6) E.

7:00 p.m. Regular Council Meeting

All City Council Meetings and City Committee Meetings will be conducted in-person at Belfast City Hall, effective May 3, 2022.

TO: Mayor Eric Sanders and Honorable Members of Belfast City Council

FROM: Erin Herbig, City Manager

DATE: Thursday, June 29, 2023

Agenda Items:

10-A Discussion regarding addressing accessibility within the City of Belfast.

Belfast residents Neva Allen and Aynne Ames addressed the City Council during Open to the Public to express their concerns regarding accessibility within the City of Belfast at the November 1, 2022, Regular City Council Meeting. They came back to discuss their proposal in further detail with the City Council at the December 6, 2022, Regular Council Meeting.

At that meeting, it was recommended that Aynne Ames and Neva Allen form the Accessibility Working Group to work with interested citizens to finalize a list of proposed handicap accessibility projects, much like the Pedestrian Biking and Hiking Committee does each year, by February 1, 2023, ahead of FY23-24 budget discussions so that the City could consider what projects to address in the upcoming year. Ms. Allen and Ms. Ames provided a financial figure of \$25,000.00 requested in the FY23-24 budget that would be allocated to fund these proposed projects.

Please see the attached memo (10-A) from Neva Allen and Aynne Ames outlining their proposed projects. Ms. Allen and Ms. Ames will be at the meeting to present and answer any questions.

10-B Request from the Veterans of Foreign Wars Randall Collins Post 3103 to build and install a building on the East Side to house the model ship “USS Independence.”

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Randall Collins Post 3103 partnered with the City of Belfast in 2020 to install a POW/MIA monument on the East Side on Footbridge Road. The VFW is currently in possession of a large model of an aircraft carrier, the “USS Independence,” and was modeled after the actual carrier.

The VFW is proposing that a building be constructed near the current monument that would house the model with an opening on each end so that the VFW can move it in and out twice a year for parades and for maintenance as needed.

The VFW believes they could get help from the Waldo County Tech Center and volunteers to construct and install the proposed building. As for supplies and expenses related to the construction and permitting, they have yet to be determined. At this point, the VFW are seeking City authorization to install the building on City property so they take the next steps in the planning and permitting process.

Please see the attached memo (10-B) from Jim Roberts, Commander of the VFW, outlining their proposal. Mr. Roberts will be at the meeting to present and answer any questions.

10-C Request to authorize an earned carryover vacation time payout for City of Belfast First Responders for FY2022-23.

City of Belfast First Responders have been under an additional amount of staffing pressure for the past few years. Belfast Police, Fire and Ambulance Departments were all understaffed in 2022. I am happy to report that all are now fully staffed in 2023. However, this has not entirely resolved their ability to utilize earned vacation time.

Following discussions with both Police Chief Cormier and Fire Chief Richards, I recommend the City Council again authorize the payout of earned carryover vacation time for each City of Belfast First Responder. The City Council authorized this same proposal for FY2020-21 and FY2021-22.

If approved by the City Council, City staff recommend the authorization to pay out up to 80 hours of earned carryover vacation time for each City of Belfast First Responder. I further recommend these buyouts be designated from FY2022-23 funds in account# 220-501 Police Salary and Wages and account# 270-501 Ambulance Salary and Wages. The current balance of these accounts is \$250,771 and \$160,783 respectively, which would comfortably cover the cost of these payouts.

This request, if accepted, could serve as a bonus to our employees that have covered the City of Belfast public safety while building our teams. I will be at the meeting to present and to answer any questions.

10-D Request by the Code and Planning Director to review, discuss, and authorize improvements at the Church Street and Northport Avenue intersection designed by the City Engineer.

In April 2023, the City Council authorized the City Engineer to generate a design for improvements to the intersection at Church Street, High Street, and Northport Avenue. A concept utilizing a “tactical urbanism” approach to the intersection design was initially suggested by the Belfast Pedestrian, Biking and Hiking (PBH) Committee and supported by Code and Planning staff.

At the June 6, 2023, Regular City Council Meeting, City staff presented a proposed design that would address this past winter’s development regarding the private property that is now fenced and limits pedestrian traffic. Following the presentation, the City Council requested that the City Engineer update the design proposal to include a raised, granite curbed "node" on the point property for pedestrians without the bollards.

The updated design of the intersection improvements for the intersection of Church Street, High Street, and Northport Avenue consists of extending the point of the northerly side of Church Street into the intersection to create space for the extended sidewalk and relocated crosswalk. There would be added granite curb to create a raised barrier to prevent traffic turning from High onto Church Street from driving in the modified space. The curb will also create a barrier to stormwater and in turn, the City Engineer suggests adding a catch basin to collect surface flow along the curb.

On the southerly side of the intersection, Church Street would be modified by removing pavement and planting a vegetated area, similar to the Miller Street reconfiguration. This would allow traffic to be channeled in a more perpendicular orientation to the High Street/Northport Avenue intersection. Curb is not needed here, and it is recommended that the area should be able to be graded to allow surface water to reach existing structures.

The City Engineer does not recommend a modification at the intersection for a four way stop sign intersection. This is because the alignment between Allyn and Church Street is offset, and

this is not a suitable configuration for a four way stop. There is not sufficient area within the road right-of-way to relocate Church Street to make the streets aligned. If the City did acquire additional property to the south, a significant reconstruction of the intersection would be necessary to facilitate this.

The City Engineer also notes that there are old water and sewer utilities in the intersection and a design is underway to replace the 6-inch clay sewers which are in poor condition and undersized. The sewers would impact the south side of the intersection. The Belfast Water District (BWD) was contacted to locate their water lines and the water is located directly under the area where the sidewalk is being extended. BWD would like to upgrade their facilities in the intersection. It is likely they can relocate their line to avoid the new curb, but this is coordination that should happen if the City elects to proceed with this work.

City staff requests that the City Council review the design and consider granting approval of the updated design so that the City's Public Works Department may install it.

If approved by the City Council, City staff requests a motion is made approving installation of the proposal and authorize funding of up to \$18,000.00 from account #420-573 Sidewalk Improvements and Maintenance for the proposed project at the intersection of Church Street and Northport Avenue. This account has a current balance of \$75,000.

Please see the attached memo and updated design (10-D) from Director of Code and Planning Bub Fournier explaining the request in further detail. Director Fournier will be at the meeting to present and answer any questions.

10-E Request to authorize City staff to apply to the Community Resilience Partnership for a Community Action Grant.

At the June 20th Regular City Council Meeting, the City Council authorized the enrollment of the City of Belfast into the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future's Community

Resilience Partnership. Once enrolled in the partnership, a community is eligible to apply for Community Action Grants, which are offered twice a year, and can be used to undertake additional planning efforts or to implement priorities that were identified during the enrollment process. The minimum and maximum amounts for these grants are \$5,000 and \$50,000. Grant applications in support of an activity, program, or project identified in the list of community actions require no matching funds from the community. The next application deadline for this program is July 7th, 2023.

One of the priorities that the City of Belfast identified as part of the enrollment process was conducting a feasibility study of City buildings for the installation of heat pumps. The City of Belfast would like to apply for a Community Action Grant for this upcoming round that is based on this priority. The City's Economic Development Director will provide a more detailed proposed scope of work for the City Council's review and consideration at the July 5th meeting.

If approved by the City Council, Economic Development Director Thomas Kittredge requests a motion is made to authorize the submission of an application to the Community Resilience Partnership for a Community Action Grant, for up to the maximum allowable amount of \$50,000; authorize the solicitation of one or more letters of support in support of, and to be included with this application; and authorize the City Manager to sign any and all documents necessary for the submission of this application.

Please see the attached memo (10-E) from Economic Development Director Thomas Kittredge providing further information. Director Kittredge will be at the meeting to present and answer any questions.

10-F Discussion regarding newly formed Policy Committee terms, member roles and meeting schedule.

At the June 20, 2023, Regular City Council Meeting the City Council approved phase one of the City committee restructure proposal to include the Climate, Energy, and Utilities Committee; the Pedestrian, Transportation, and Accessibility Committee; and the Housing and Property Development Committee.

At that meeting, the City Council requested that City staff reach out to each of these newly formed City Policy Committees requesting that they determine and report back with information regarding which member will serve as the committee chair, which member will serve as their committee secretary, when their committee will meet each month, and, if applicable, set term expiration dates for all newly appointed members.

Staff requested that this information be provided no later than Wednesday, June 28, 2023, by 5:00 p.m. to ensure that each committee's information is included in this Council packet.

The Pedestrian, Transportation and Accessibility Committee has appointed Bruce Snider as their Committee Chair and David Loxterkamp as their Committee Secretary. This Committee will meet on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 4:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Glenn Montgomery's term will expire in 2024. Cara Harshman and Bruce Snider's terms will expire in 2025. Neva Allen, Bill Durkin, and David Loxterkamp's terms will expire in 2026. Aynne Ames has declined appointment to the committee.

The Housing and Property Development Committee has appointed Nat Clifford as their Committee Chair and Caleb Elwell as their Committee Secretary. This Committee will meet on the 4th Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

The Climate, Energy and Utilities Committee had not responded to this request for information by the time this report was published. City staff will try to get this information prior to the meeting for Council discussion.

I will be at the meeting to present and answer any questions.

10-G Signing of Council Orders

Independence Day, or the 4th of July as we so affectionately refer to it in our country, is the annual celebration of our nationhood.

This day commemorates the passage of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. It marks the anniversary of the Second Continental Congress adopting the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776. Made up of delegates from the United States' original thirteen colonies, this Congress unanimously approved the document that declared independence from Great Britian.

A decision of this magnitude is almost unfathomable because while declaring independence from Great Britian, they were also asserting interdependence with each other.

We know how difficult it is to make each decision at the municipal, state, and federal levels of government at this time. It always requires putting aside differences to join together to work for a common goal.

Independence Day is a day to celebrate our independence as well as our unity. I wish you all a happy 4th.

**City of Belfast
Consent Agenda
Wednesday, July 5, 2023
Meeting #1**

The following items are proposed as our Consent Agenda. As in the past the items are voted on in one blanket motion to the affirmative. One Councilor makes a motion to approve the items as stated, and then another Councilor will second that motion and the whole Council votes. If a Councilor requests an item be removed from the consent agenda, they do so during the adoption of the agenda. If a member of the public requests that an item be removed from the consent agenda, they can do so in the open to the public section. Suggested motions are listed and supporting material is enclosed.

9) Permits, Petitions and Licenses - Consent Agenda

- A. Request to approve an off-premises catering permit for Frank D Hazeltine Post #43 d/b/a American Legion Post #43 for the 250th Anniversary of the City of Belfast celebration on July 1st and 2nd, 2023, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. located at Belfast City Park, City Park Rd., Belfast, Maine.**

Motion to approve an off-premises catering permit for Frank D Hazeltine Post #43 d/b/a American Legion Post #43 for the 250th Anniversary of the City of Belfast celebration on July 1st and 2nd, 2023, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. located at Belfast City Park, City Park Rd., Belfast, Maine.

- B. Request to approve an off-premises catering permit for Bell the Cat Inc. d/b/a Bell the Cat for the Cheryl O'Heir's Project gathering on July 11th, 2023, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. located at the Fireside Inn & Suites, 159 Searsport Ave., Belfast, Maine.**

Motion to approve an off-premises catering permit for Bell the Cat Inc. d/b/a Bell the Cat for the Cheryl O'Heir's Project gathering on July 11th, 2023, from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. located at the Fireside Inn & Suites, 159 Searsport Ave., Belfast, Maine.

- C. Request to approve an extension of liquor license permit for Moonbat LLC d/b/a Marshall Wharf Brewing Company for the Beer Festival on October 7, 2023 to extend their capacity of their property with a roped off area located at 36 Marshall Wharf, Belfast Maine.**

Motion to approve an extension of liquor license permit for Moonbat LLC d/b/a Marshall Wharf Brewing Company for the Beer Festival on October 7, 2023 to extend their capacity of their property with a roped off area located at 36 Marshall Wharf, Belfast Maine.

- D. Request to approve an application by Allplay Bowling Center LLC d/b/a Allplay Bowling Center located at 49 Searsport Ave., Belfast, Maine for a renewal Malt and Vinous Restaurant (Class I, II, III and IV) liquor license.**

Motion to approve an application by Allplay Bowling Center LLC d/b/a Allplay Bowling Center located at 49 Searsport Ave., Belfast, Maine for a renewal Malt and Vinous Restaurant (Class I, II, III and IV) liquor license.

- E. Request to approve an Itinerant Vendor's Permit for Jackson M. York d/b/a Renewal by Andersen located at 615 Odlin Rd., Bangor, Maine offering window and door consultations.**

Motion to approve an Itinerant Vendor's Permit for Jackson M. York d/b/a Renewal by Andersen located at 615 Odlin Rd., Bangor, Maine offering window and door consultations.

April 2, 2023

To: Honorable Mayor, Eric Sanders, City Manager and City Councilors of Belfast, Maine

From: Aynne Ames and Neva Allen, Citizens concerned with lack of access for mobility challenged people living, working and visiting in Belfast. Me

We appreciate you attending to this very important issue and want to especially thank Neal Harkness and Carole Good for their willingness to assist the project by transporting the recorder.

Although there are many areas of the city with access needs, we are specifically concentrating on the busy downtown area which is the heart of our community. Areas outside of this center also need attention but much of that is maintenance by a particular department of the city and to get too far afield of the central downtown area becomes an unwieldy project for us.

Attached, for your consideration, are numbered photos and attached comments regarding them. Aynne has walked the places pictured and as a minimally handicapped person still had major issues in trying to access much of the downtown area.

The major problems are two fold, the first being the most significant; that would be the lack of parking in the downtown. There is little point in cutouts if the person in need can't park anywhere near the cutouts. Just in the last month Aynne stopped behind an SUV which had parked IN the street on upper Main. As there is NO handicapped parking whatsoever on the top block of Main St. this car stopped, lights flashing, got out on the driver's side right in the traffic lane, walked around the vehicle, let someone out of the back seat, helped them to the curb, returned to the car and drove off. Of course that would all have to be repeated when the person is picked up. Meanwhile we had several cars backed up behind that car and the two who of course couldn't wait and went around the rest of us, into the other lane and to the light.

Now I don't expect this happens every day but it does point out the difficulty of anyone with mobility issues getting a parking place, or to even GET to a cut out.

The vertical parking is much easier and safer to deal with than is the horizontal parking but there isn't enough room for that on upper Main, unless it were only one side of the street, thus causing a loss of even more parking.. There again is the call for a need for more parking. Aynne would suggest a parking garage near lower Main, but that is a different issue.

Then of course there is the need for cut outs. They need to be wide enough and slopping enough to accommodate a cane walker, a wheel chair, a roller walker and a baby carriage. They should be made of concrete and have a railing on one side. That railing should be small enough and sturdy enough so that a person can fully grasp it and both steady themselves and pull themselves up if need be.

We understand that downtown exists, to a great extent, on a rather steep hill which complicates things. We also understand that we cannot do everything for everyone who needs access help and we cannot do it all at once. But, we can do better than what we presently have and we can do it soon, and correctly

the first time so that over the next several years such installations will only require occasional maintenance.

We have no doubt whatsoever that the council, mayor and city manager also want to do the right thing to allow all of our citizens to feel included in our community.

If you have any questions of us, please don't hesitate to contact us by phone or email.

Aynne will be present at the meeting when the agenda includes this issue and Neva will be present via Zoom.

Sincerely,

Aynne and Neva

Breakdown of photos taken by Carol, notes by Aynne April , 2023

General notes:

Congress and Pine: all too narrow, No sidewalks on Pine, Congress to Church, and no places to park, sidewalks are sketchy

Park to Union: no sidewalk

Grove, sketchy walking

Elm St. good

On High St. by Waterfall Arts, the cross walk goes directly in to bushes.

Main: No HC parking whatever on upper block of Maine

Photos: Starting on Main

#2 Looking up hill from Rollie's side of St.. No cuts. Pull in parking and vertical .Only one HC space which is down from Rollie's.

#3 From Tracy's up Main. There is one hot top cut .one HC parking. No curb cuts.

#4 In front of Alexis and up toward P.O. NO HC WHATSOEVER ON EITHER SIDE OF UPPERMOST BLOCK ON Main.

#5 Going downhill on Main from Beaver. One hot top ramp. Beaver St. okay

#6 Main St. going downhill. One HC spot at top of High St.

#7. In front of Dockside to water. Wide open. No parking.

#8. Police station. Totally impossible to enter in front

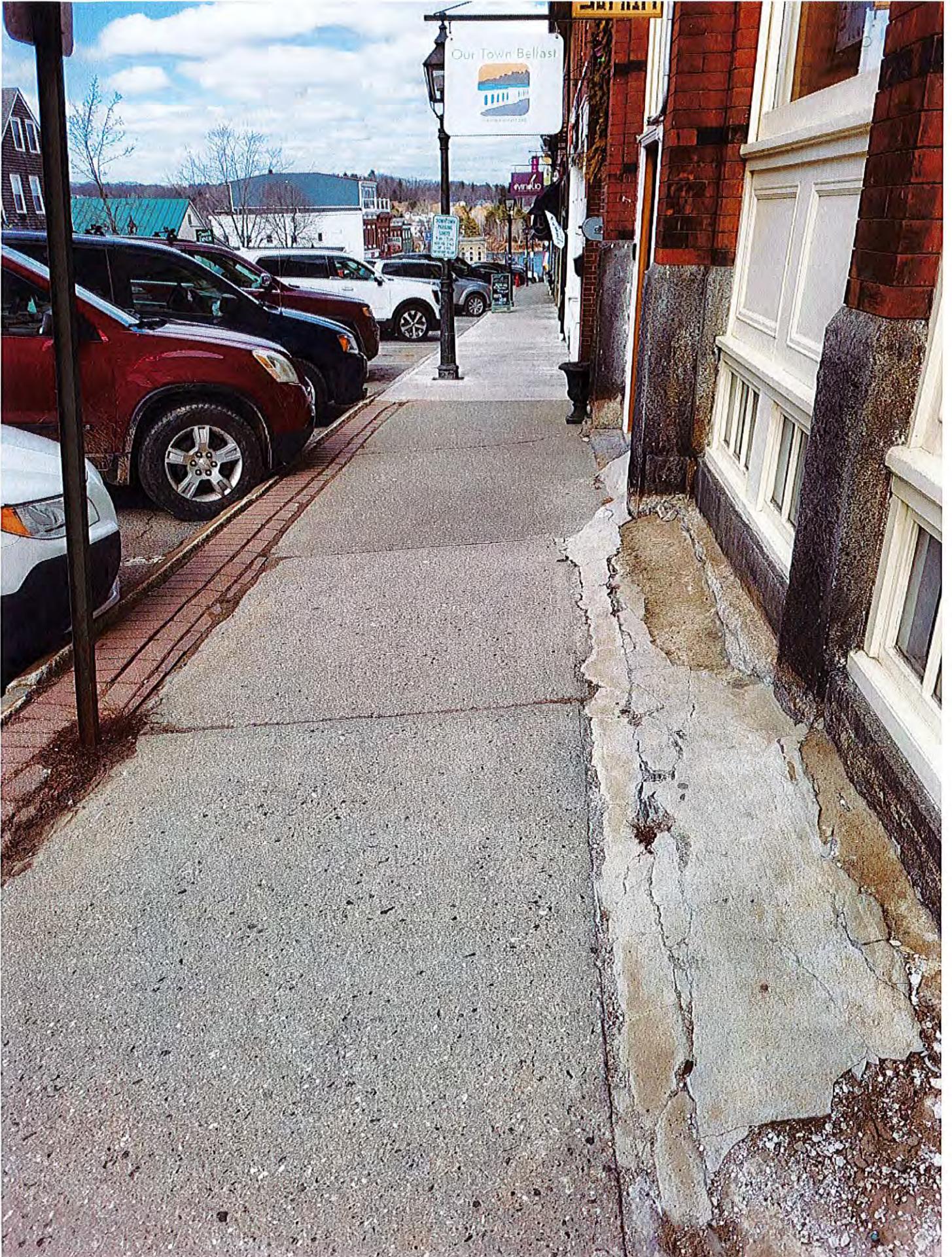
#9. Left bank book store area sketchy unless one can go to end of block and walk that far.

This is certainly not all inclusive of parking, walking issues even in the down town area but it is a beginning. We certainly can't do everything for everyone all at once but we can do several things, soon, properly and hit the most important areas which will make folks with mobility issues better able to access our businesses and their own needs. Once and right is the goal. And, the biggest issue still remains a solution for parking. I do have a suggestion for that but that can wait until another time.

Thank you.

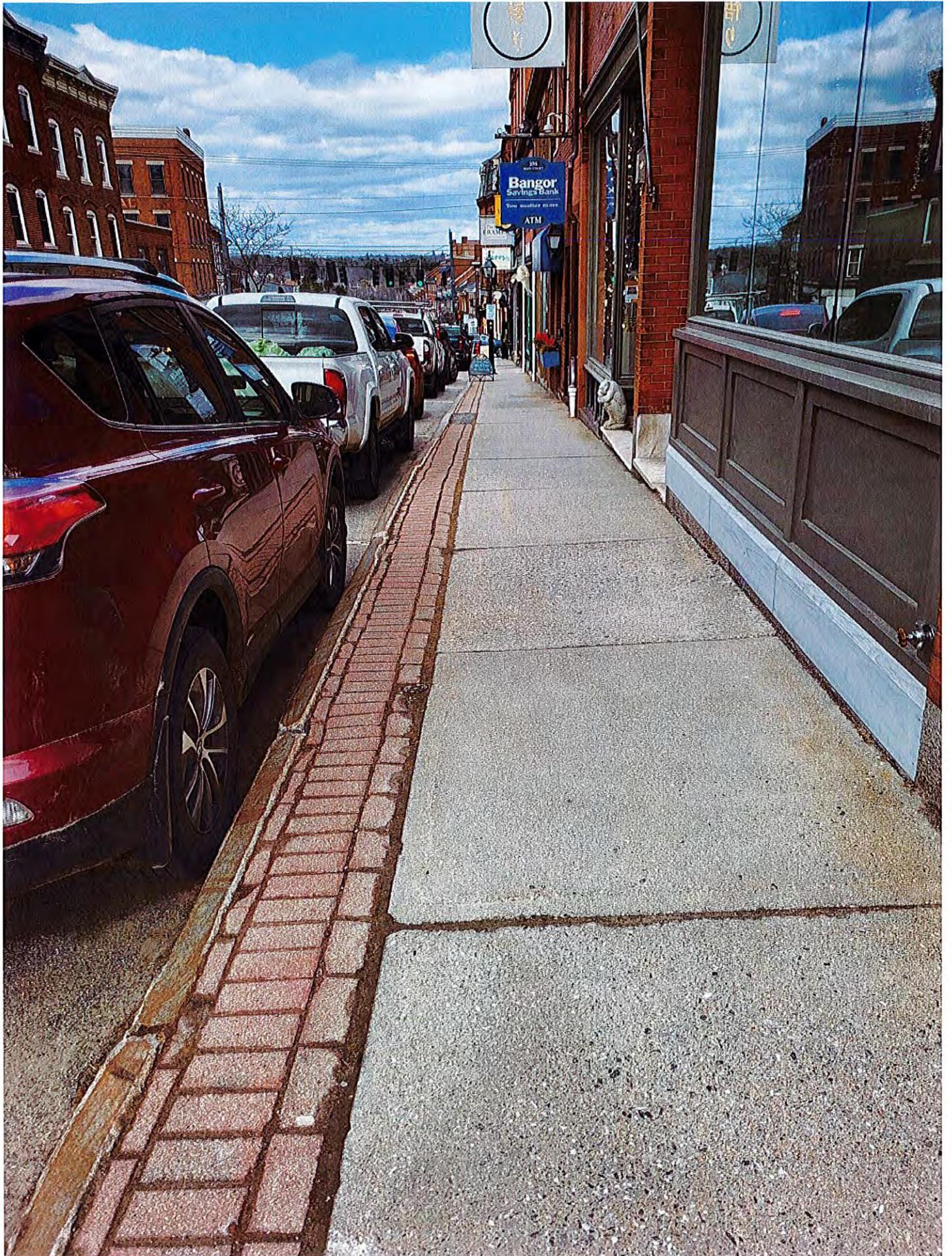
Attached: Additional photos a letters from concerned citizens.



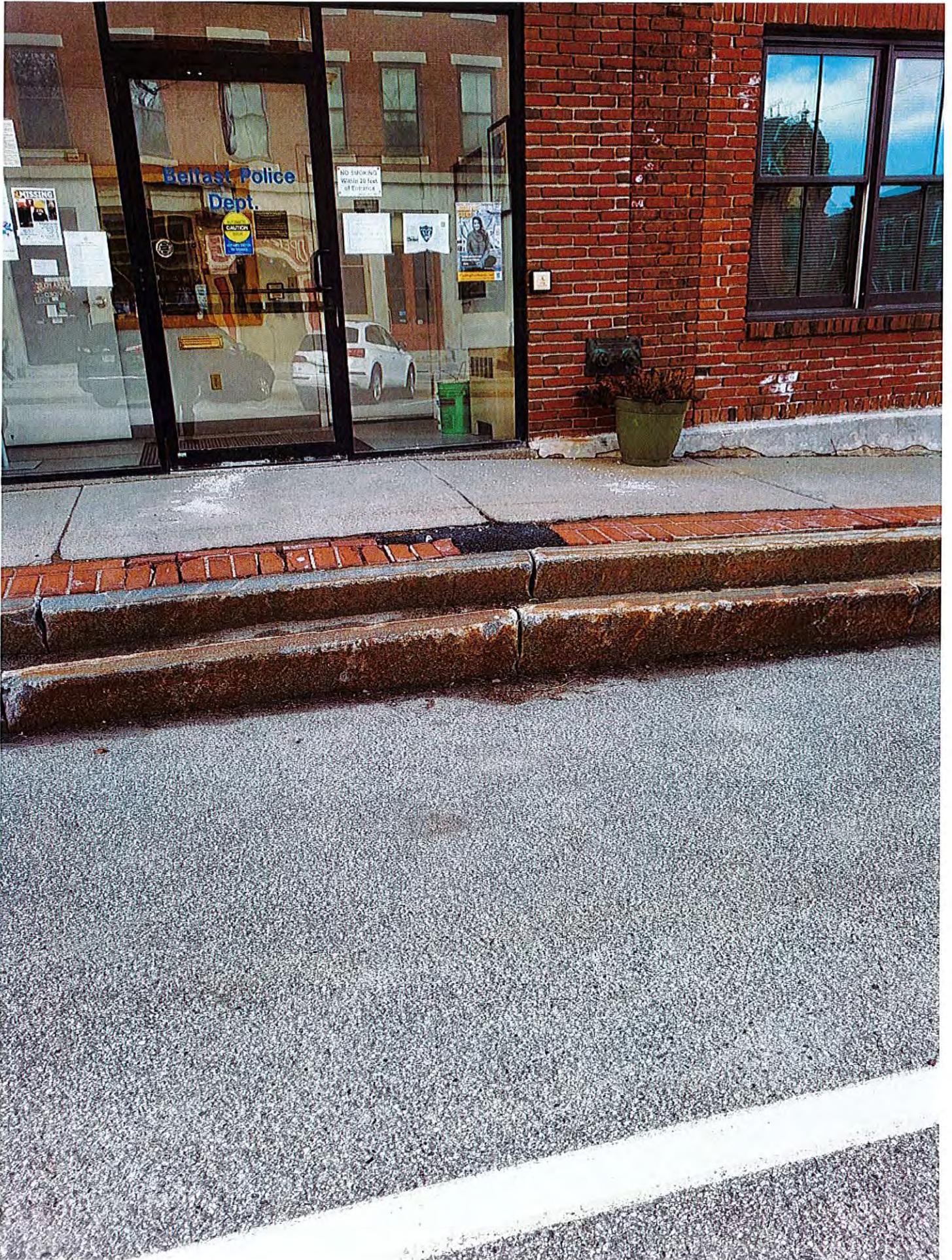
















Ms.Harford,

Neva Allen and I are DEFINATELY at work on putting together a comprehensive plan to improve handicap access in Belfast.

Neal Harkness of the Council and Caol Good of Parks and Rec are aiding our efforts.

Our report to the council is due June 1,2023. It takes this long as we cannot make much progress while,ice,snow,slush are still impeding sidewalk access.

Neva and I also have various physical challenges so understand of what you speak.

Thank you for being another voice to bring this serious issue to the attention of the council.

We will absolutely promise to follow through on this project.

Sincerely,

Aynne Ames

Hello Neva,

Thank you for reaching out. I have had concerns for some time now but because of my issues have been unable to address them to anyone, and don't know who that may be.

1) I can no longer walk very far and the walkways are all in terrible, dangerous, condition. Walking to my car is very stressful. The sidewalks in Belfast are uneven, pitted, slanted, and crumbly everywhere, and used by many people.

2)The street lights are non existent in some places, they go out and are not replaced. There are no lights on Church St, on the Western side- not sure of the eastern side, from the Police station to Miller Street, is very dark. My landlord will not put a light in the driveway, and the driveway is very dark, slanted and uneven. I cannot walk in the dark.

3)There are no railings, nothing you can pull yourself up on, anywhere. I use sign posts when available, to get onto curbs, into stores with slanted entry ways. More benches would provide a welcome resting place.

4) I can barely hear, but the snow plows are very loud. The one that clears Miller Street to the police station has a high plow shovel which he just drops to the ground without any attempt to do it in a quiet way at 3 o'clock in the AM, and does that about ten times

5) There is no one who knows who to go to about these problems, or who cares. I have talked to the police, they just shrug. There is a big aging population, these problems will just get worse. Sit in a car and just look at the people using the sidewalks. almost all of them are crooked, limping, using a cane(s), bent over and worse. Even young folk.

There are people with a total lack of understanding, and compassion who try to jump ahead of you or go around you fast and cut you off to save themselves 5 or 15 seconds !! I don't have a friend or family that lives with me and helps me on a regular basis so it's dicey. Very fortunately for me there are some people, total strangers, who take some time to help me when I most need it. They help me to my car, carry my groceries for me, or put them where it isn't difficult for me to take them in, or very often deliver to my car, or just ask if they can help! This kindness has been a huge help ! Thank You, many, many thanks.

Best,

Nancy Kline

207-701-8818

Hello,

What a great idea to ask for suggestions. Thank you!

I live in Belfast with a small dog. Because of mobility issues, I can not walk long distances. The current dog park on route 52 is located 1-2 blocks from its parking lot. It is too challenging for me to navigate. I would appreciate having a small space within the community with parking directly adjacent. Perhaps an area could be found within the city park or along the waterfront. There are many older residents in Belfast who have small dogs. I bet they too would appreciate having a convenient space to exercise their dog off leash in a more central location.

Again my thanks for offering a forum to express my concerns.

Pat Hagerty
Belfast

Dear Mayor Eric Sanders,

My name is Brenda Harford ,I have MS and have trouble walking. My Mom and I went to Tracy's Restaurant on Monday

Feb.6,2023. It was hard getting up the step but my Mom really wanted to talk me to eat there. When I came out of Tracy's

I went backwards down the step cause it's easier. When I went to step down which was so hard to do, a lady also helped

hold my other arm cause my Mom was holding on to me. When I stepped down my legs gave out and I fell because the step

is way to high. Thankfully my Mom was in back of me to make sure I didn't hit my head, I have been in alot more pain in my

back and the pain is going up my back, left leg is in alot of pain and numbness is alot more.

Why isn't downtown Belfast Handicapped accessible for all of us handicapped people. We like to shop downtown but can't

because it's hard for us to get into the buildings. This must make it also hard for all the tourist when they come. I feel that no

one care if we go into these stores because we are Handicapped. I thought every place was supposed to be Hannicapped accessible?

Please look into this and the curbs are also to high. If there was more opening so we could get onto the side walks better. Most of the

time the handicap parking is taken. It would make It so much easier for myself and other's if you would look into this and make it

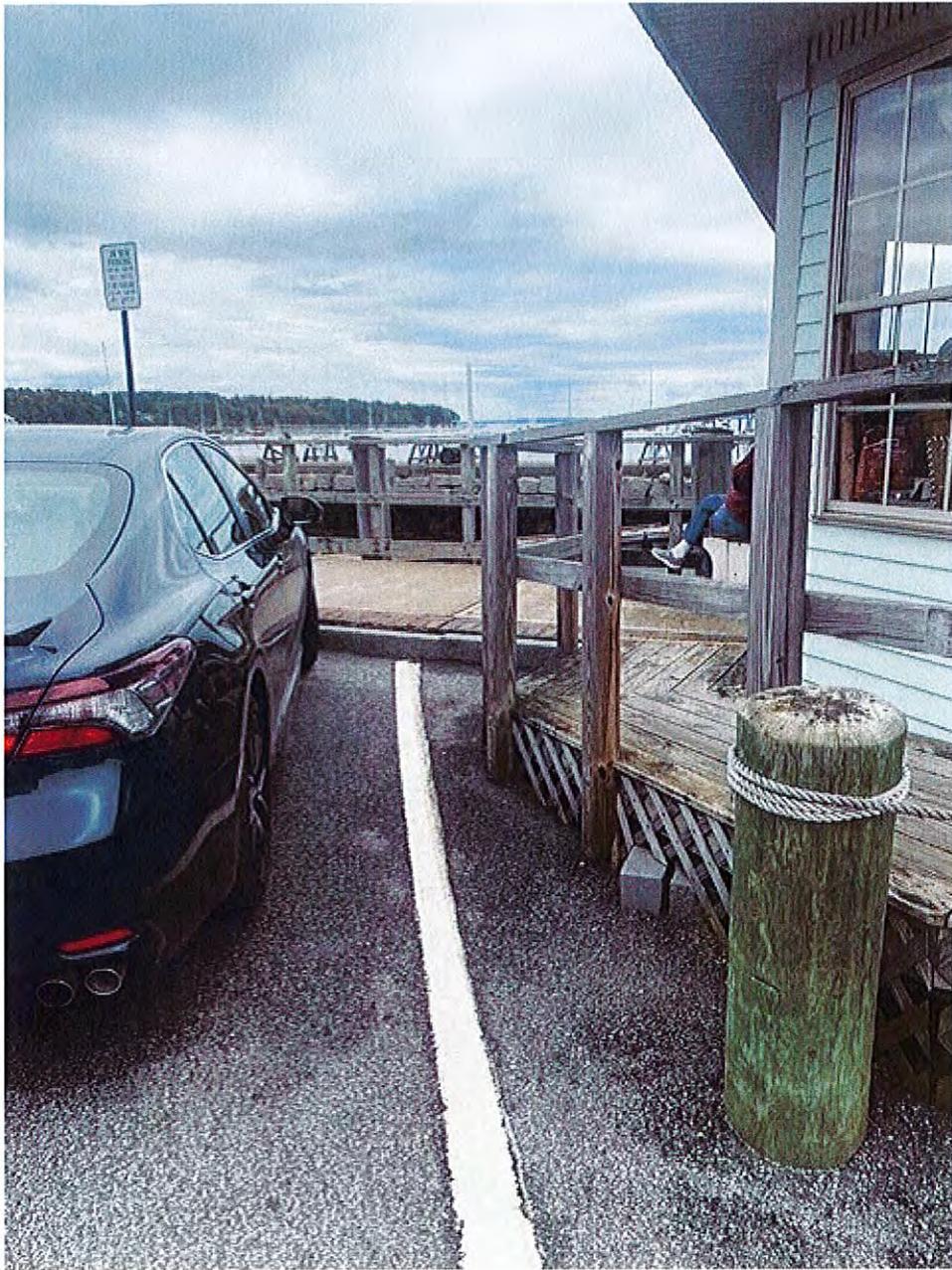
much easier for us to go to these store's. My Mom and I won't be going back to Tracy's or anywhere that's hard to get into. My Mom is

81 yrs. old and it's to much for her to get me in and out of these business's. I begged you please make changes to downtown.

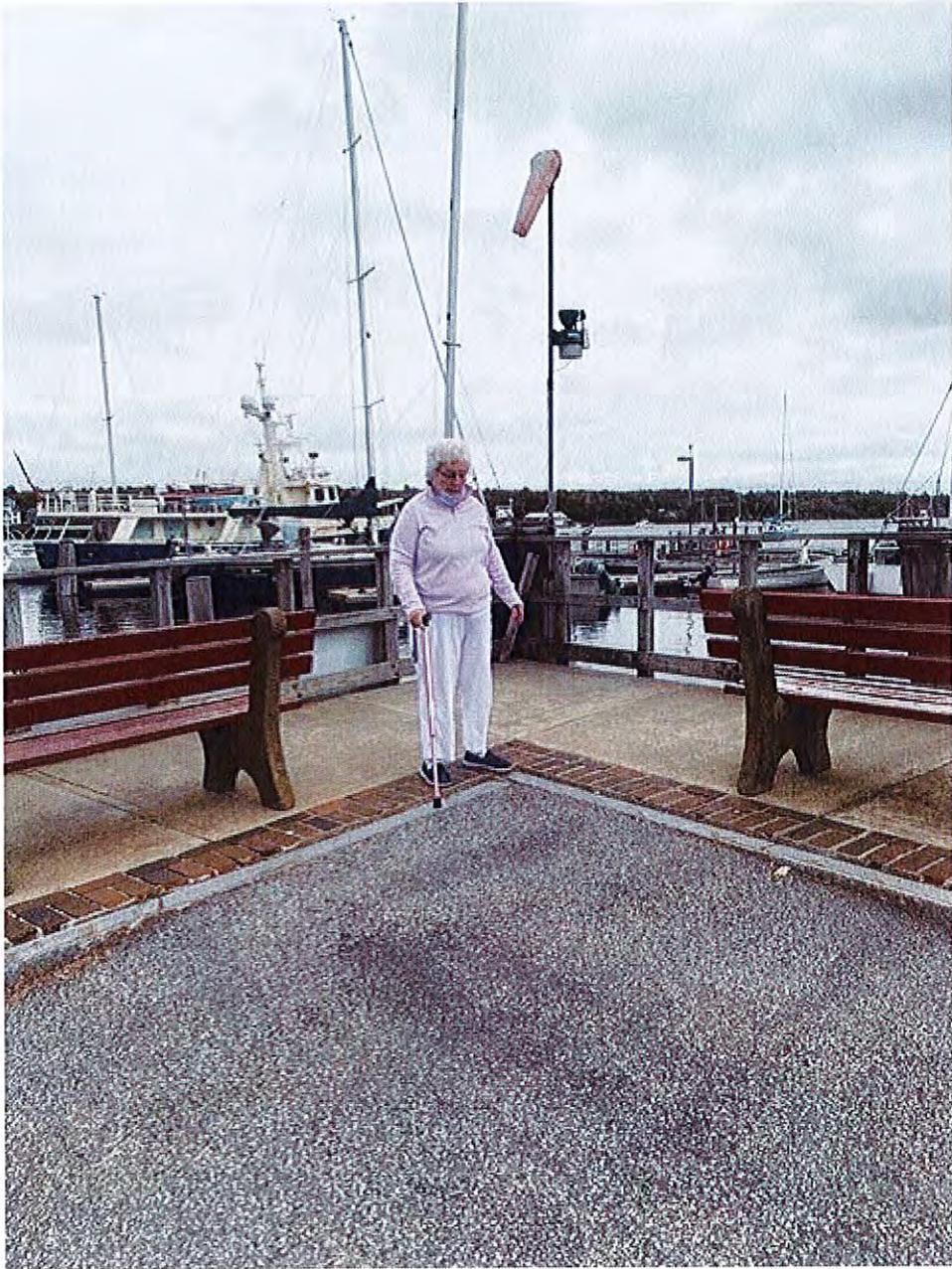
Thank You for reading this letter.

Sincerely,

Brenda Harford







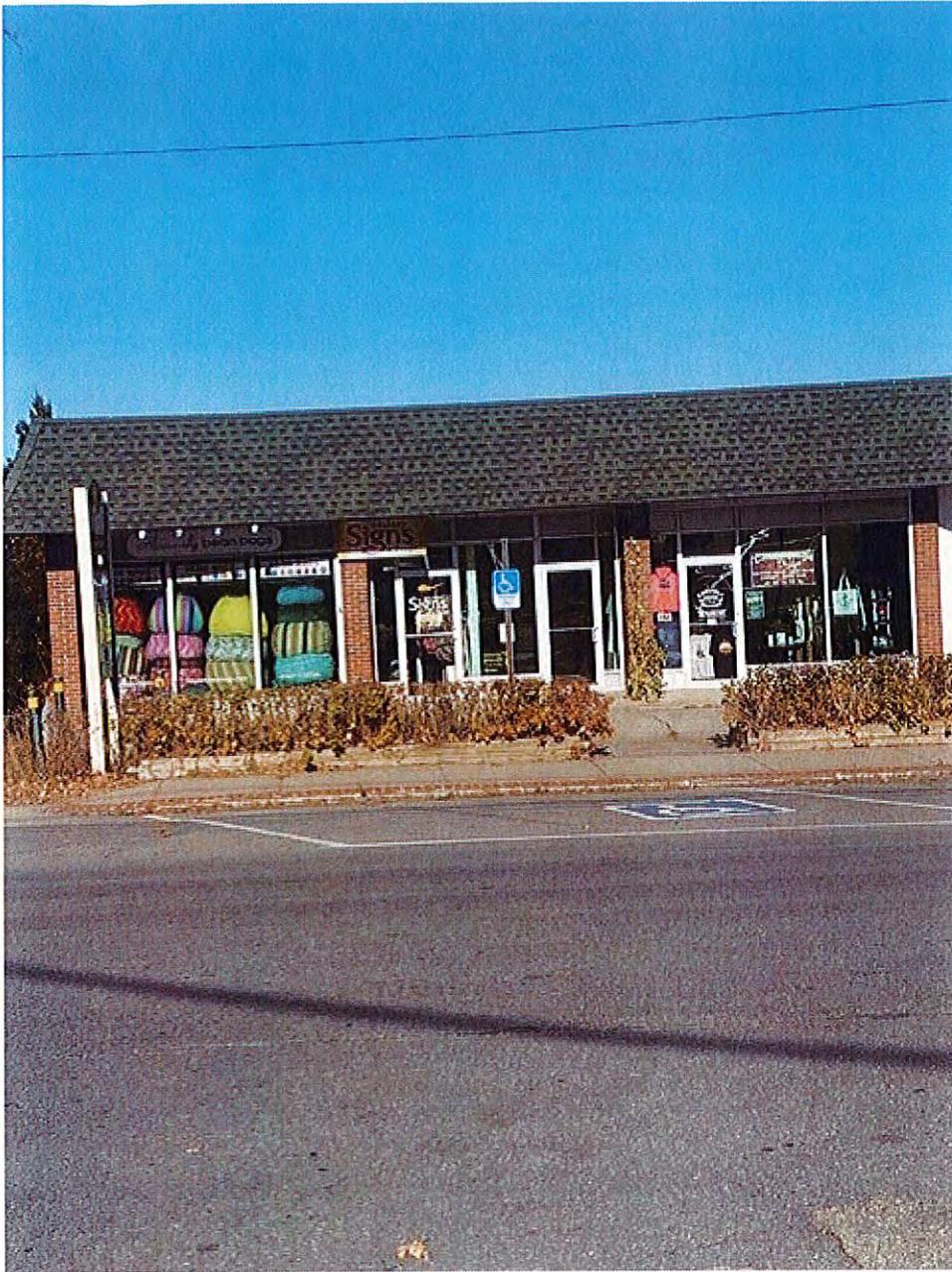














10.B



Jim Roberts, Commander
Veterans of Foreign Wars
Randall and Collins Post 3108
34 Field Street
Belfast, Maine 04915
(207) 338 - 2358

To: The Honorable Mayor, City Councilors, and City Manager.
Subj: Continued Partnership

Greetings All.

I am writing first, to thank you all for your support of our efforts in this great City. This year when we reached out for help with our fundraising efforts to purchase the American Flags for our city streets, you doubled our request, enabling us to do a little more than "bare bones" and left us a small budget to replace / repair Flags as needed. We as a team at the VFW appreciate your support.

I am proposing another joint project.

As most of you know, I am in possession of a very large model of an aircraft carrier, the "USS Independence" This ship model was created by the Late Clyde Wellman and left in my care to restore and care for. The ship itself is modeled after the actual carrier, with fine detail that is worthy of a museum.

I propose a building is constructed near the POW / MIA monument you graciously allowed us to erect on the East Side near the footbridge.

The monument attracts many spectators. We always see a few folks visiting the site, and adding a new piece would just enhance the foot traffic in that area.

We have continued to maintain the existing monument, making small repairs when needed, replacing flags both on the Flagpole and the smaller service flags near its base. At the beginning of each year, and as needed due to weather we change or replace worn or missing flags, and although there are a number of late night visitors to the site, there has been NO vandalism.

My proposal consists of a building that would house the ship model, with an opening on each end so we can move it in and out twice a year for parades and to access it for painting or other maintenance. A brief history of the actual Independence (such as it being the first ship to allow a female fighter pilot to land on its deck) and a history of Mr. Welman, including his connection to the ship (he and 2 of his sons served on her, while he was also a "plank-owner")

The building could be constructed with help from the Waldo County Tech Center or other volunteer labor. Finding materials to build and permits for its construction could be obstacles / hurdles with this proposed project. I have measured the space, and have actually had the model on that location for other events and services, so we know it will physically fit in the location. We would continue to do the upkeep of both the monument and ship model.

Respectfully Submitted

J. P. H.

323-5403

10.D

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 28, 2023

TO: Belfast Mayor and City Council

FROM: Bub Fournier, Director of Planning and Codes Department

RE: Request by Planning and Codes Department Director to review, discuss and authorize improvements at the Church Street and Northport Avenue intersection designed by the City Engineer.

Background Information:

In mid-April 2023, the City Council and Mayor authorized the City Engineer to generate a design for improvements to the intersection of Church Street and Northport Avenue. A concept utilizing a temporary “tactical urbanism” approach to the intersection was initially brought to the Council for review on June 20, 2023. The Council and staff also received feedback from community members regarding the design. Comments from that discussion have now been incorporated into a revised design generated by Mandy Olver Holway of Olver Associates. The updated design is enclosed.

The updated design incorporates a raised asphalt pedestrian “node” with granite curbs on the north side of the intersection where the sidewalk will lead to a new crosswalk location. The crosswalk would include pedestrian signalization similar to the intersection at Main Street and Lincolnville Avenue. In this newly proposed design, the raised area necessitates an additional catch basin for stormwater collection along the curb. On the southern side of the intersection, the design proposes to simply remove pavement to narrow and realign the intersection, with no need to rework stormwater. The centerline striping leading up to the intersection would be restriped to guide traffic and the stop sign would be relocated.

City Engineer Mandy Olver Holway has also addressed the notion of a 4-way stop at this location in her enclosed memorandum to the Council. Due to the angles at the intersection, a 4-way stop is not recommended, and realignment is not dimensionally possible without acquiring additional space. The City Engineer estimated that this project, if completed by the Public Works Department, might be estimated at \$8k-\$10K without the signalization. DPW Director Bob Richards updated this estimate to be \$17,227 to include the signalization and suggests that the granite curbing may take some time to arrive.

Requested Action:

I request the City Council and Mayor consider approving installation of the proposal by spending up to \$18,000 from Account #420-573 Sidewalk Improvements and Maintenance for the proposed project at the intersection of Church Street and Northport Avenue.

OLVER ASSOCIATES

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERS

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Bub Fournier, Director, Code & Planning

FROM: Mandy Holway Olver, P.E.

DATE: June 27, 2023

RE: Northport-High-Church Street
Intersection Modifications



Attached please find an updated draft of the intersection improvements for the intersection of Northport Avenue, High & Church Streets. The scope would consist of extending the point of the northerly side of Church Street into the intersection to create space for the extended sidewalk and relocated crosswalk. There would be added granite curb to create a raised barrier to prevent traffic turning from High onto Church from driving in the modified space. The curb will also create a barrier to stormwater, therefore we suggest adding a catch basin to collect surface flow along the curb.

On the southerly side of the intersection, Church Street would be modified by removing pavement and planting a vegetated area, similar to the Miller Street reconfiguration. This would allow traffic to be channeled in a more perpendicular orientation to the High/Northport intersection. Curb is not needed here, therefore the area should be able to be graded to allow surface water to reach existing structures.

We understand that there was some discussion about whether there should be modification here to a four way stop sign intersection. We do not recommend this because the alignment between Allyn and Church Street is offset, and this is not a suitable configuration for a four way stop. There is not sufficient area within the road right-of-way to relocate Church Street to make the streets aligned, and if the City did acquire additional property to the south, a significant reconstruction of the intersection would be necessary to facilitate this.

We also want to note that there are old water and sewer utilities in the intersection and design is underway to replace the 6 inch clay sewers which are in poor condition and undersized. The sewers would impact the south side of the intersection. We contacted Belfast Water District to locate their water lines and as you can see, the water is located directly under the area where the sidewalk is being extended. BWD would like to upgrade their facilities in the intersection at some point because they are older cast iron pipes so whatever is planned should be coordinated with them as well. It is likely they can relocate their line to avoid the new curb, but this is coordination that should happen if the City elects to proceed with this work.

Please let me know if there are questions or any additional information needed at this time.

10.E



CITY OF BELFAST

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Economic Development Director

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From: Thomas Kittredge, Economic Development Director

To: Mayor Eric Sanders, City Councilor Brenda Bonneville, City Councilor Paul Dean, City Councilor Neal Harkness, City Councilor Michael Hurley, City Councilor Mary Mortier, and City Manager Erin Herbig

For: Belfast City Council Meeting of July 5th, 2023

Regarding: Request to have the City Council authorize City staff to apply to the Community Resilience Partnership for a Community Action Grant.

At its previous meeting, held on June 20th, the Belfast City Council authorized the enrollment of the City of Belfast into the Governor's Office of Policy Innovation and the Future's *Community Resilience Partnership*. Once enrolled in the Partnership, a community is eligible to apply for *Community Action Grants*, which are offered twice a year, which can be used to undertake additional planning efforts or to implement priorities that were identified during the enrollment process. The minimum and maximum amounts for these grants are \$5,000 and \$50,000, respectively. Grant applications in support of an activity, program, or project identified in the *List of Community Actions* (a document that was completed as part of the enrollment process) require no matching funds from the community (though they may require utilizing/incorporating incentives from other related programs). The next application deadline for this program is July 7th, 2023.

One of the priorities that the City of Belfast identified as part of the enrollment process was conducting a feasibility study of City buildings for the installation of heat pumps. The City of Belfast would like to submit an application for a Community Action Grant for this upcoming round that is based on this priority. The City's Economic Development Director will provide a more detailed proposed scope of work for the City Council's review and consideration at the July 5th meeting.

At this time, the Economic Development Director requests that the City Council take the following actions:

- 1) Authorize the submission of an application to the Community Resilience Partnership for a Community Action Grant, for up to the maximum allowable amount of \$50,000;
- 2) Authorize the solicitation of one or more Letters of Support in support of, and to be included with this application; and
- 3) Authorize the City Manager to sign any and all documents necessary for the submission of this application.