Linda Vacon



"For You, For Holyoke"

CITIZEN'S FORUM for WARD 5 RESIDENTS

at Mrs. Mitchell's located in the plaza at Homestead and Westfield Road (Rt. 202)

Monday, August 28th, 6:00PM

Minutes August 28th 2017 Citizen's Forum

Over 30 residents attended the forum on Monday at 6:00PM at Mrs. Mitchell's.

Guest City Councilor Dan Bresnahan, Chairman, Public Safety Committee attended.

He was present to hear concerns about the continuing and worsening traffic concerns here in Ward 5

1) Apremont Hwy intersection at Rock Valley Road

An order has been filed to add signs to increase safety and clarify the right of way where the line of sight are not clear.

2) Pending issues with DPW

It was noted that some of the items are being completed. The remaining items will be followed up on to ensure completion

3) Speeding/drivers cutting through neighborhoods/Clayton, Ashley, Sunset, Evergreen &

Mountain Rd.

Lengthy discussion took place regarding these issues. Many ideas were put forth and it was agreed that I would file orders for intersection changes at

Sunset, Ashley and Rt 202; that no parking will be added near 10 Sunset on both sides of the road, that there be no automatic green light at 202 and sunset when a car cuts through the neighborhood.

Residents on Mountain road requested more signage and review of speed limits and possibility of speed humps. Evergreen Road residents want the speed humps that were removed when the road was resurfaced to be replaced. They were not discontinued.

The idea of an unused old cruiser parked in areas to discourage speeding was suggested.

Dan Bresnahan let those present know that the Public Safety Committee will follow up.

4) Pending issues: No water shut off agreement is in place yet for failure to pay sewer bills. An order has been filed to let the public know when and where a fire engine is browned out by using the city call system.

New Issues: One resident provided information about an idea for a new ramp to the Pike in Westfield for drivers traveling East or exiting to proceed West. It is hoped that now that there are no toll booths, this idea might be possible. So far federal regs require a ramp to access both directions and bridges must be a certain height and width for a ramp to be added.

Thanks for your interest, ideas and participation.

Submitted by,
Linda Vacon,
Your Ward 5 City Councilor