Public Safety Committee Meeting
August 25, 2008

Item #1

ORDERED THAT the head of the Department of Transportation of the Chicopee Schools and the owner/director of First Student Bus Company meet with the Public Safety Committee about concerns regarding operation of drivers through neighborhood streets and the parking of buses on side streets between drop offs and pick ups.

CHICOPEE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

ACCEPTED

MEMBERS
Ronald Belair, Chairman
Robert J. Zygarowski, Vice-Chairman
Fred Krampits
Dino Brunetti
Shane Brooks

MINUTES
August 25, 2008

The following are the minutes of a public hearing held Monday, August 25, 2008 at 6:30 PM in the Aldermanic Chambers, Fourth Floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01013.

Members Present Belair, Zygarowski, Krampits, Brunetti,

Members Absent Brooks

Also Present Marjorie Wojcik (School Committee), Terry Glusko (Director of Transportation for First Student Bus Co.), and Frank Willuby (Manager First Student Bus Co.,)

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 PM

Motion made to recess to the call of the chair.
Meeting called back into session at 6:40 PM.

ITEM #1
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Alderman Brunetti stated that the has received numerous complaints of school buses speeding down Deslauriers Street. The buses are empty and the drivers are using Deslauriers Street as a cut off to Memorial Drive. His second concern is empty buses being parked on streets in between drop offs and pick ups. Some of these buses are blocking driveways or making it difficult to see oncoming traffic when backing out of driveways.

Frank Willaby stated that drivers have been told and reminded again with a memo not to drive on Deslauriers Street only if picking up or dropping off. Frank suggested that the bus numbers be recorded and reported to his office. Drivers who do not follow orders and procedures will be addressed.

Frank also stated that drivers are allowed to take the bus to their residence if they have a short time between drop offs and pick-ups. These drivers have been told that they must obey parking regulations. Again, if someone is not obeying regulations the bus number

needs to be turned into his office and he will speak with that driver. Frank also informed that the committee that if a driver is cited the result is immediate termination.

Gloria Beauchemin, 131 Deslauriers Street, stated that the empty buses fly up and down the street. She is afraid someone will be killed.

Alderman Zygarowski stated that Ms. Beauchemin should call the Police Department and ask to speak with the Commanding Officer and then perhaps a cruiser could be sent to the area and he or she could observe what is happening and take necessary action.

Informational meeting.

Committee vote 4 – 0 favorable.

Meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM.