



## **Parking Advisory Committee**

### **Meeting 8/3/2022**

#### Minutes

Attendees: James Bonanno, Jill Potter, Gene Dello, Barbara Krzak, John Moor,

1. Roll Call
2. Salute to the Flag
3. Public Comment

Mr. Ismet raised concerns with parking along the 400 block of Seventh Avenue and requested the addition of residential only parking along one side of the street or the striping of parking stalls. The Parking Committee felt striping parking stalls may be a good solution and tasked staff with developing a striping plan.

Ms. Tassiello reiterated concerns she has made at past meetings regarding the misuse of the Residential Permit Only parking spaces along Third Avenue. The Parking Committee discussed with Ms. Tassiello their desires to raise the penalty for this infraction and to place signage alerting drivers of this penalty to deter them from parking in these spaces without the proper permit.

Ms. Fox requested residents of the City's downtown be eligible for both a Bangs Ave Garage and a Zone 4 Permit. Staff explained that the City only allows for residents to obtain one permit and not both due to limited parking availability. Ms. Fox stated that she has trouble unloading her vehicle at her home because she has a Bangs Avenue Garage Permit and is worried about being ticketed in Zone 4. Mr. Dello recommended Ms. Fox utilize her vehicle's flashers when parked outside her home to unload. He assured her that the parking enforcement officers look to for these lights for this exact reason and are lenient provided the vehicle doesn't remain in a single spot for an extended period of time.

4. Matters from the Director of Transportation

- a. City Hall Parking Lot Regulations

Staff informed the Committee that the changes in regulations for parking in the City Hall Parking Lot will be going into effect on 8/8/22. The lot will now include a 3-hour parking limits on all vehicles within the lot between the hours of 8 am and 5 pm on weekdays.

- b. Monthly Parking Report

Staff presented the Parking Committee with the monthly Parking Report that illustrated July 2022's parking revenue was 81.73% higher than July 2021's revenue.

Staff continued with the Review of Parking Meter Maintenance. The Committee was made aware that one parking meters is currently shut down for maintenance. Staff explained it is having numerous issues and each piece is being investigated to find the issue. Additionally, Staff will be taking the initiative in the month of August to fix a number of existing lock and vault door issues.

10.50% of parking tickets issued, or 958 in total were voided in the month of July. The largest reasons being Officer Adjusted with 39.46% or 378 total, Ticketed While Paying with 15.03% or 144 total, Subject Paid with 12.21% or 117 total, 12.00% or 115 total due to User Error, Duplicate Ticket with 9.81% or 94 total, and Valid Permit Holder with 9.60% or 92 total.

c. Electric Vehicle Chargers along Springwood Avenue

The Parking Committee was made aware that construction has begun for the installation of three electric vehicle chargers along Springwood Avenue east of the intersection of Union Street.

5. Old Business

a. Review of Parking Infractions

After hearing concerns from residents and parking enforcement it is the decision of the Parking Committee to recommend the City Council increase the fine for Overtime Meter Parking from \$36 to \$50 to be more in line with the cost of paying for parkin for a full day Additionally, they recommend the fine for Permit Only Designated Spaces increase from \$50 to \$90 to be more in line with the price of a residential permit. These changes are in response to reports from parking enforcement officers and residents of drivers parking illegally and willing to receive a parking ticket instead of properly parking and paying parking fees. The Committee believes the fines were should have been increased when parking fees were increased. The lack of an increase has made paying a parking ticket in some cases more affordable than paying for parking and is no longer effective as a deterrent for breaking the law.

6. New Business

a. Governor Murphy's Charge Up Announcement

At the request of the parking committee, staff provided a summary of Governor Murphy's Charge Up Program Announcement. The program is entering its third year and will be making money available for public EV chargers, private EV chargers, and electric vehicles for municipal governments.

b. Lake Avenue Parking Lot

Committee members raised concerns that the parking lot on Lake Avenue adjacent to Grand Avenue only costs \$5 to park for a full day. It is their understanding that there is an ordinance that the parking lots cannot undercut the City's charges for parking. They requested staff review the ordinance and the parking lot license for these and any other regulations that might need to be addressed. This item was tabled until the September 7, 2022 Meeting

## 7. Adjournment