



Parking Advisory Committee

Meeting 10/05/2021

Minutes

Attendees: Mike Manzella, James Bonanno, Jill Potter, John Moor, Maggie Quinton, Barbara Krzak, Gene Dello

1. Roll Call

2. Salute to the Flag

3. Public Comment

No public comments were presented.

4. Matters from the Director of Transportation

The Director of Transportation did not have any matters to be address and instead allowed Gene Dello to address some matters to the Parking Committee

a. Parking Meter Concerns

Mr. Dello introduced Special Officers Mathew Breslin and Alison Antonucci to the Parking Committee and commended their work maintaining the City's parking meters over the summer. The Parking Committee was made aware that the City's Parking Meters require regular maintenance and that Officers Breslin and Antonucci have been responsible for keeping them in working order this summer. The Parking Committee thanked them for their hard work and expressed interest in learning more about the condition of the parking meters. After some discussion about the current issues being experienced the Parking Committee requested staff provide them with a monthly update on the status of the meters.

b. Parking Ticket complications

Mr. Dello informed the Parking Committee that 10% of all tickets that have been issued in 2021 have been issued in error and been rescinded. He is concerned with the growing number of mis-issued tickets. While he acknowledges that some of these tickets are due to user or officer errors he advised the Committee that many tickets are being mis-issued due to frequent outages of the City's license plate reading enforcement. Staff assured Mr. Dello and the Committee that they are aware of the issues and working to rectify them.

c. Parking Permit and License Plate Reading Enforcement Update

Staff updated the Parking Committee that a resolution for a new parking permit and license plate reading enforcement vendor is scheduled to go before the City Council on Wednesday October 13, 2021. Staff is hopeful to have new license plate reading enforcement operational by the beginning of 2022 and a new permitting portal operational by Spring 2022.

5. Old Business

a. Extended Vehicle Parking Ordinance

The extended vehicle parking ordinance which will allow vehicles that have been stationary for thirty days or more to be treated as abandoned was adopted by the City Council in August and is in effect.

b. Metered Parking Rate Changes

At the Committee's previous meeting in August members discussed raising parking rates within the Downtown and Waterfront zones from on weekdays and weekends during the peak season. It has always been the opinion of the Committee that pricing reflects the parking demand. With the pandemic winding down the demand for parking within the city is nearing the peak demand experienced in 2019 and is set to surpass it. The Parking Committee recommends the peak parking rate in the waterfront be increased from 2\$ per hour to 3\$ per hour on weekdays and weekends to allow for a larger turn over of parked vehicles and make more spaces available to visitors and residents seeking to visit the waterfront. The Downtown peak parking rates should also increase from \$1 to 2\$ per hour on Weekdays and 2\$ to 3\$ per hour on weekends during the peak season. The Downtown peak seasons are currently the same as the Central Zone, raising Downtown prices will incentivize drivers seeking longer stays to park farther away from the downtown opening up more parking spaces for drivers seeking short stays in the City's Downtown zone. Additionally, The Parking Committee recommends the City Council amend the Parking Zones by moving Bangs Avenue from Main Street to Cookman Avenue, Mattison Avenue from Main Street to Cookman Avenue, and Bond and Emory Streets from Cookman Avenue to Bangs Avenue from the Central Zone to the Downtown Zone. This is intended to incentivize parking turnover on and around The City's Central Business District.

6. New Business

a. Residential Driveway Painting

This item was tabled until the November meeting.

b. Handicapped Parking

In response to public concerns of a lack of handicap parking spaces within the City, The Parking Committee reviewed a map of existing handicap parking spaces in the City's Downtown. Staff suggested a number of additional handicap space locations that conform with the Public Rights-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines. Members had some concerns with the locations of some of the proposed handicap spaces and felt

it would be advantageous to wait for a map of all handicap parking city wide before making decisions on ne handicap parking locations. This topic was tabled until a more complete list and map of all handicap parking within the City can be made available.

c. 2022 Meeting Calendar

Staff presented the Committee with a draft 2022 Meeting Calendar. All meeting dates are set to occur on the first Wednesday of each month. No Holidays or special events coincide with any of the specified meeting dates. The Parking Committee accepted the draft calendar as their 2022 Meeting Calendar.

d. Review of Metered, Permit, and Alternate Side Parking Being Installed

Staff is working diligently to implement all Metered, Permit, and Alternate Side Parking regulations adopted by ordinance by the City Council in 2019 and 2020 that were postponed due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. All planned installations were presented to the Parking Committee. Staff informed the Committee that once complete, the City's transportation network would be aligned with the City's current Municipal Code with the exception of metered parking on Main Street. Main Street is designated as State Route 71 and is maintained by the New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) who must review all changes made to the roadway before the City can implement. They are currently in the review process. The Parking Committee had no objections to the planned installations.

*All Alternate Side, Permit, and Metered Parking can be found in Chapter 7 TRAFFIC of the City of Asbury Park's Municipal Code.

e. Bradley Elementary School No Parking Request

Bradley Elementary School contacted Staff to request a No Parking 7:00 am to 5:00 pm zone be installed on the Northwest portion of Comstock Street between Second and Third Avenues. The school, the neighboring Department of Motor Vehicle location, and local residents often have trouble navigating this area of roadway during school hours due to the drop-off and pick-up of school children blocking the roadway. The Asbury Park Police and the school staff have been blocking parking along the northwest portion of the roadway to allow parents to pull off the roadway for drop-off and pick-up. It is their opinion that this strategy has alleviated congestion surrounding the school and would like to make the No Parking zone permanent. The Parking Committee was in favor of the change in parking on Comstock Street between Second and Third Avenue and recommends the City Council create a No Parking 7:00 am to 5:00 pm zone on the east side of Bradley Elementary.

f. Sunset Avenue Back-In Angle Parking

Sunset Avenue is scheduled to be milled and paved the following week. Being an opportune time to adjust striping and roadway design, staff recommended parking along Sunset Avenue between Ocean Avenue and Webb Street be changed to back-

in angle parking. This is a safer strategy for parking that allows for better sightlines when pulling out of spaces as well as allowing passengers exiting and unpacking vehicles to do so towards the sidewalk rather than the middle of the roadway. The parking Committee was concerned with enforcement as our current enforcement vehicles cannot read the license plates of back-in angle parked vehicles. They recommend the parking not change along this stretch of roadway and for staff to investigate adapting the City's enforcement vehicles to be able to read license plates of back-in angle parked vehicles for future installations.

7. Adjournment