

TOWN OF SOUTHTON
PARKING AUTHORITY
Regular Meeting
February 5, 2009

A regular meeting of the Parking Authority of the Town of Southington was held on February 5, 2009 in the Town Council Chambers of the Southington Town Hall at 75 Main Street, Southington, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order by John Solury, Chairman at 1:05PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag was recited by all present.

Roll Call

Present: John Solury Chairman, Mr. Mathew Florian, Mr. Mark Dziubek and Asst. Town Manager/Town Attorney, Mark Sciota. Ms. Erin Kane arrived a few minutes after roll call.

A quorum is determined.

John J. Solury, Jr. assuming the Chair:

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Dziubek made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 22, 2009 meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Florian. The Chair called for a roll call vote: Mr. Florian-yes, Chairman Solury-yes, Mr. Dziubek-yes. The motion is passed.

Chairman Solury welcomed Mathew Florian to the Parking Authority.

New Business item #2 is addressed out of order.

Jerry Limmer, 40 Butternut Lane, coordinator for Music on the Green addressed the Parking Authority. He requests permission to use the municipal parking lot for the Music on the Green programs this summer. He explained in detail what the needs of this program are in relation to parking lot use. His request does not deviate from previous years. Ms. Kane asked about the time frame. Trailers and equipment will be in place for 15 weeks this summer—from the first Wednesday in June until the last Wednesday in August. Mr. Limmer explained about the car shows and the space needed for that part of the program. There were no further questions from the panel and they thanked the committee for continuing this popular public program. There was some discussion about the two hour parking spaces and coordination with banking hours.

Mr. Dziubek made a motion to grant Mr. Limmer's request to occupy part of the municipal parking lot for Music on the Green as presented; considering past practices and testimony. Ms. Kane

seconded his motion. The Chair called for a roll call vote: Mr. Florian-yes, Ms. Kane-yes, Chairman Solury-yes, Mr. Dziubek-yes. This motion is passed.

Election of Officers

Not applicable.

Public Communications

None

Commissioners Communications

Chairman Solury presented a copy of a letter submitted to Capt. Palmieri at the Police Department from Meredith Mann concerning a parking ticket she received. It is herewith attached.

The Chair also reported on other issues. The previous board was working on a possible parking study and he has discussed this with Mary Savage. She has tried to get it approved in the budget process for a few years without success. She is willing to work with this board to write guidelines and make recommendations to get this done. He has a copy of the 2000 study to share with the parking authority commissioners.

Chairman Solury and Mr. Dziubek attended a meeting of the Plantsville Renaissance Committee meeting on January 30. There was a presentation and discussion about the beautification of downtown Plantsville. Parking will be an issue. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 23 at 2PM in the Council Chambers. Mr. Dziubek has accepted the responsibility of being liaison to this committee. He plans to attend the next meeting and he will keep this panel informed.

Ms. Kane spoke about the two hour parking policy. She has discussed this with Police Chief Daley. He forwarded a list of all of the parking tickets issued in the downtown area in December, 2008 and January and she presents a pie charts for a quick overview of the times and number of tickets being issued. It is apparent that there are quite a few two-hour parking tickets being issued on the weekends and off peak hours and that enforcement has been stepped up considerably. She suggested that the policy and the signage be changed to have two hour parking limits apply on Monday thru Friday 8-6 only. There was some discussion. There have been many complaints from people who go to church on Sunday morning, then go to breakfast, who get a parking ticket in the municipal lots. Street parking is under the jurisdiction of the Police Department. Mr. Dziubek asked whether this change would allow abuse of the overnight parking ban. It was reinforced that there would still be no overnight parking in the municipal lots. There was some discussion about raising the fine for overnight parking. Chairman Solury asked Attorney Sciota about the legality of changing the two hour parking to Monday thru Friday only. Attorney Sciota spoke in favor of this regulation alteration-- Monday thru Friday 8-6 two-hour parking-- to the commissioners. The next action will be to hold a public

hearing to amend the current regulations. There were some concern about the hours of BankAmerica and Valley Bank on Saturday. Commissioner Kane will speak with the appropriate personnel at each bank about this. Chairman Solury will work with Attorney Sciota to schedule a public hearing. Mr. Florian explained the concerns of the business community and individual businesses regarding parking in the lots and on the street. He also suggested that a liaison officer from the Police Department be named. Ms. Kane will be the liaison of the Parking Authority to the Police Department.

Submission of Bills and Payments

A bill is presented by the stenographer for recording the minutes of this meeting in the amount of \$106. Mr. Dziubek made a motion that this bill be paid as presented. Mr. Florian seconded his motion. The Chair called for a roll call vote: Mr. Florian-yes, Ms. Kane-yes, Chairman Solury-yes, Mr. Dziubek-yes.

OLD BUSINESS

Attorney Sciota reported that he did notify the Chief of Police that this board wishes to ratify the last board's decision on the change in parking fines from \$10 to \$25. It will be presented to the Police Board.

NEW BUSINESS

Parking Waiver

None

Meeting Schedule for 2009

An updated meeting schedule is presented for 2009. The meeting time will be changed from 4:30PM to 1:00PM. Ms. Kane did comment that it is slightly difficult for her arrive promptly at 1 PM. due to her work. After some discussion it was decided that this time was convenient for most commissioners. Mr. Dziubek made a motion that the 2009 meeting schedule be approved as presented. This was seconded by Mr. Florian. The Chair called for a roll call vote: Mr. Florian-yes, Ms. Kane-yes, Chairman Solury-yes, Mr. Dziubek-yes. The motion passed.

Rules and Regulations

Chairman Solury reported that he and Ms. Kane met with Rebecca Davis on January 26, 2009. She furnished them with the current rules and regulations in the municipal parking lots. He expressed gratitude for her time and attention. He shared the information and indicated that it was important to review it. Ms. Davis also furnished them with maps and some insight into unfinished business. Attorney Sciota discussed the town

ordinances relating to the municipal parking lots included in the packet.

F.O.I Review

Chairman Solury reported that he met with the Town Attorney to discuss F.O.I. issues and asked that this important information be shared with the panel. Attorney Sciota explained in some detail the concept and laws surrounding F.O.I. and the importance of all board business being transparent to the public. He advised commissioners to review the code of ethics. He cautioned them about conferencing by e-mail or texting about issues before the board. He answered their questions and reminded them that he is available to discuss individual situations.

Miscellaneous

Chairman Solury reminded the commissioners that a walk-through of the municipal lots will be planned sometime in April and it would be a good idea to bring personal calendars to the March meeting.

Rebecca Davis had noted a pending issue with a damaged fence in the Riccio Way lot. That will be viewed at the time of the spring walk.

The past commissioners were working out an agreement with downtown merchants to cluster dumpsters. Chairman Solury has appointed Mr. Florian to contact John Myers and explore the background of this project and report at the next meeting.

There was some discussion about getting copies of maps of the municipal lots to each commissioner. Chairman Solury will make arrangements to have these maps be available to all commissioners and the Police Department. Ms. Kane offered her help.

Adjournment

Mr. Florian made a motion to adjourn and this was seconded by Ms. Kane. All were in favor of adjournment; called for by Chairman Solury at 14:05.

John J. Solury, Jr., Chairman
Parking Authority
Town of Southington

January 23, 2009
975 East St.
Southington, Ct 06489

Attn: Capt. Wm Palmeiri:
Southington Police Dept:
Dear Capt. Palmeiri<

Re: Parking ticket

I believe you are acquainted with an incident I encountered Wednesday of this week. I was given a ticket for parking in the Municipal Parking lot while I was at church working on post funeral service refreshments. I do not deny that I was there longer than the two hour limit caused by our own church parking lot being totally loaded with the hearse, family and other related cars.

The municipal lot was also loaded with Bradford Hall students, mourners, and what has now become a very large number of handicapped spaces .

One question, why so many handicapped parking spaces, which are usually empty?

I believe something has got to be done for church people like myself..

Ours is only a very limited need when events such as this funeral (and another one coming up coming Saturday-31st) finds us in a parking spot longer than the arbitrarily imposed two hour limit. I feel we should be given consideration.

Is it possible for us to work out a conciliatory arrangement? I, and several others who have been ticketed under these circumstances will appreciate your guidance and help. Please contact me at 860-6288982. I would be glad to pass any information on to our church officials

I am also requesting that my parking ticket be cancelled

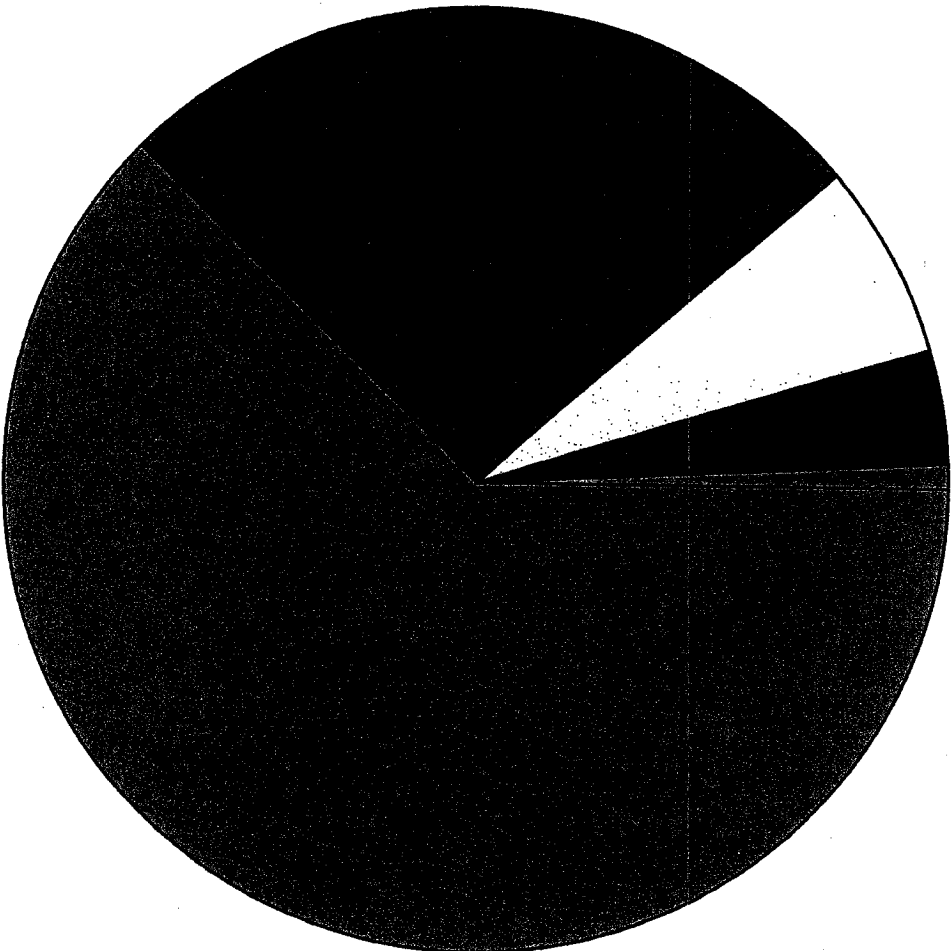


Thanking you in advance for your help

Copy: Southington Parking Authority

December 2008 Parking Tickets - 2 Hr Violation
 Downtown Municipal Lots
 Data from SPD

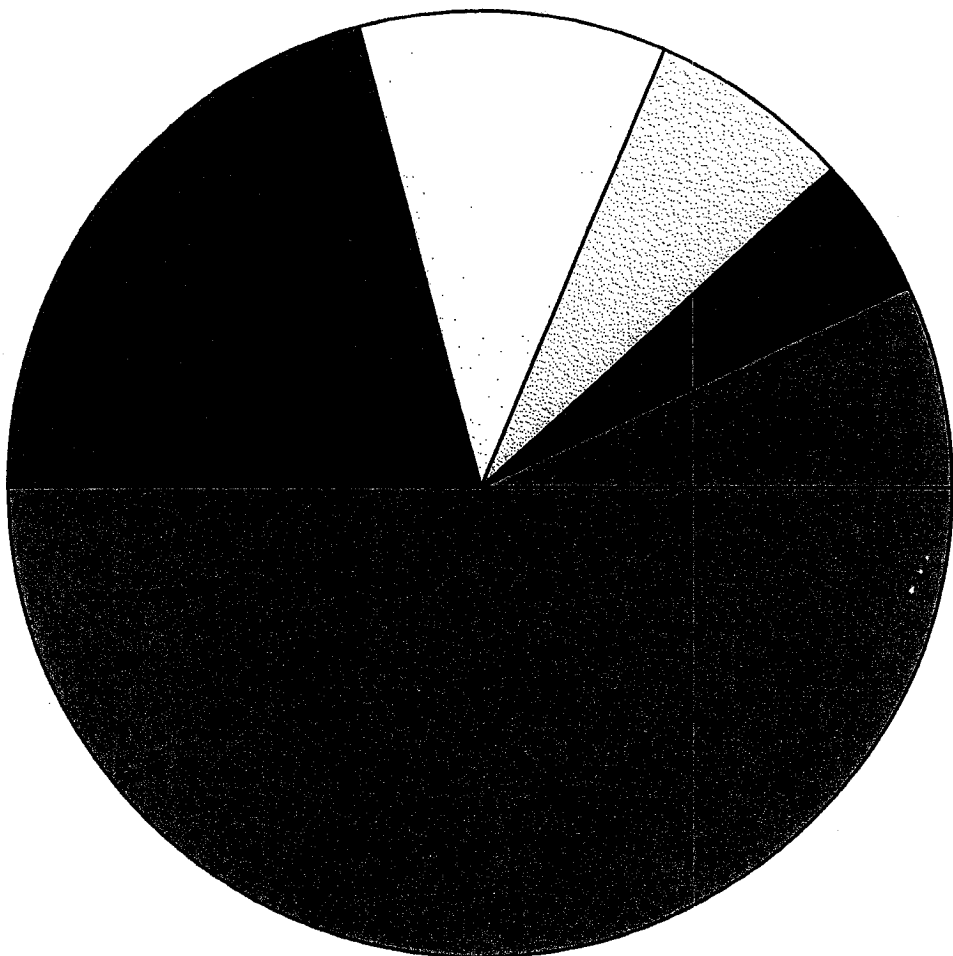
Weekday (M-F) PEAK (8-6)	Weekday (M-F) OFF PEAK	Saturday - PEAK (8-6)	Saturday - OFF PEAK	Sunday - PEAK (8-6)	Sunday - OFF PEAK	TOTAL
66	28	7	0	4	1	106



- Weekday (M-F) PEAK (8-6)
- Weekday (M-F) OFF PEAK
- Saturday - PEAK (8-6)
- Saturday - OFF PEAK
- Sunday - PEAK (8-6)
- Sunday - OFF PEAK

January 2009 Parking Tickets - 2 Hr Violation
 Downtown Municipal Lots
 Data from SPD

Weekday (M-F) PEAK (8-6)	Weekday (M-F) OFF PEAK	Saturday - PEAK (8-6)	Saturday - OFF PEAK	Sunday - PEAK (8-6)	Sunday - OFF PEAK	TOTAL
43	18	9	6	4	6	86



- Weekday (M-F) PEAK (8-6)
- Weekday (M-F) OFF PEAK
- Saturday - PEAK (8-6)
- Saturday - OFF PEAK
- Sunday- PEAK (8-6)
- Sunday - OFF PEAK