

TOWN OF SOUTHTON
PARKING AUTHORITY
REGULAR MEETING
December 3, 2009

The regular meeting of the Parking Authority of the Town of Southington was held on December 3, 2009 in the Council Chambers of the Southington Town Hall at 75 Main Street, Southington, CT. The meeting was called to order by John Solury, Jr. Chairman at 1:04pm.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Roll Call

Commissioners present: Chairman John Solury, Jr., Mathew Florian, Thomas DelSanto, Sr., Mark Dziubek and Vice Chairman Dolores Babkirk

John J. Solury, Jr. assuming the Chair:

Approval of Minutes of November 5, 2009 meeting

A motion was made by Vice Chairman Babkirk to accept the minutes as presented. Her motion was seconded by Commissioner DelSanto. The Chairman called for a roll call vote: Florian-yes, Solury-yes, Dziubek-yes, Babkirk-yes, DelSanto-yes.

Public Communications

None.

Commissioner Communications

Chairman Solury read a letter from Police Chief Daley regarding overtime parking in the municipal lots. The Board of Police Commissioners request a policy, in writing, on time limits imposed in handicapped parking spaces. Chairman Solury discussed this with Chief Daley and it appears that recently a person holding a handicapped permit received a ticket for overtime parking in a two hour handicapped spot. Solury investigated the scene personally and explained. The space in question does fall within a designated two hour parking area. He has discussed this with Attorney Sciota and the police chief. There was a discussion about the legality of limiting handicapped parking. Most handicapped spaces are unlimited, but there are a few (4 or 5) in the two-hour parking areas.

Commissioner Florian made a motion that, now and in the future, if a handicapped space is a two hour zone, it is a two hour handicapped space and the two hour limit should be enforced in all municipal lots. If a parking space is in an all day zone, then it is an all day handicapped space. The motion was seconded by Commissioner DelSanto. The Chairman called for a roll call

vote: Florian-yes, Solury-yes, Babkirk-yes, DelSanto-yes, Dziubek-yes. Chairman Solury will notify Chief Daley.

Submissions of Bills and Payments

Commissioner Babkirk made a motion that the stenographer's bill in the amount of \$106 be scheduled for payment as presented. Her motion was seconded by Commissioner Florian. All were in favor on a voice vote.

Old Business

Communal Dumpster Project BOA Lot

Commissioner Florian reported. He has spoken with the three businesses involved and all are in favor of setting up a central dumpster site. They will work out the details and he expects this to move forward. Chairman Solury asked about a timeline. This will make the area more aesthetic and will return a few parking spaces for customer use closer to the building.

2009 Parking Survey

Commissioner Babkirk reported. 45 surveys were sent out, there are 11 responses; a 25% return. The information offers some interesting insights. There was some discussion about making special arrangements for employee parking to free up spaces for customers closer to businesses, especially restaurants. This would have to be instituted through individual business owners. There was an in-depth discussion about available options. It was agreed that the Parking Authority needs to develop recommendations for employee parking regarding location. Lighting will be a concern. Commissioners agreed to personally reconnoiter downtown lots noting availability and patterns of use. This will be discussed at the January meeting.

There was a discussion about the time frame of the final development of the My Bar parking lot.

The additional parking being planned at the Library, through a grant, was discussed. It appears that it will not be a municipal lot. Commissioners agreed that the Council should be contacted about specific plans for this additional parking lot. This will be explored and discussed again in January.

Chairman Solury reviewed issues to return to next month: night time drive-bys by commissioners to determine usage of individual lots, lighting; research on plans for the Library parking lot; investigate possible use of a YMCA parking lot in the evening; Commissioner Babkirk will supply a list of all restaurants downtown.

The Fed Ex box presently placed in a handicapped space was discussed. Commissioner Dziubek is exploring having it moved to

a convenient location, close by, but not in a parking space. Commissioner Florian will take a look at it.

Signs

Commissioner DelSanto reports on the refurbishing of parking signs in municipal lots. Commissioner Dziubek is ordering the signs. The Park and Recreation Department has agreed to do the work as they have workers available. There was some discussion about height of signs and breakaway posts. The goal is to have signs be clear, simple and uniform.

Signs designed to be hanging from the lights on route 10, pointing out off street municipal parking lots, were discussed. Commissioners Dziubek and DelSanto will price these. Attorney Sciota has volunteered to contact the state for permission to hang them.

New Business

2010 Meeting Dates and Times

Chairman Solury presented the meeting schedule for 2010. There will be no meeting during August. After some discussion it was decided that regular meetings be held at 2PM.

Use of Municipal Parking Lot

None.

Parking Waiver

None.

Miscellaneous (budget)

Chairman Solury reminded commissioners that it is time to develop a budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Adjournment

Commissioner DelSanto called for adjournment at 2:25PM. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Babkirk. All were in favor of adjournment on a voice vote.

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