

TOWN OF SOUTHTON
PARKING AUTHORITY
SPECIAL MEETING
OCTOBER 13, 2011

There was a special meeting of the Parking Authority of the Town of Southington on Thursday, October 13, 2011 in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall, 75 Main Street, Southington, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Chairman John J. Solury, Jr.

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

Roll Call Present were Chairman John J. Solury, Jr., Commissioners Mark Dziubek and Michael Riccio, and Town Attorney/Assistant Town Manager Mark Sciota. Commissioner Babkirk-Rodrigues arrived at 1:25 p.m.

Approval of Minutes of September 14, 2011 Tabled due to lack of quorum.

Submissions of Bills and Payments Chairman Solury presented contractual bills from Schmidt Landscaping for maintenance of the lots in the amount of \$740 for September, the stenographer's bill in the amount of \$125 and an invoice from Sign-Pro in the amount of \$50 for changing the Rules sign.

Public Communications Joe LaPorte (719 East St.) spoke to the Parking Authority. He questions the number of parking places at issue for overnight parking. Chairman Solury explained that there are 20 spaces. Attorney Mark Sciota added that the overnight parking issue is back on the table and agenda for debate. There will be a public communication session at the next meeting for comment. Commissioner Riccio clarified the number of spaces being discussed: 6 for the LaPorte neighborhood, 7 for Mr. DelBuono and 7 commercial, for a total of 20.

Commissioner Communications Chairman Solury reported that he has been in discussions with the Town Engineer, Tony Tranquillo about the dip in the pavement at Apple Valley parking lot which needs to be corrected by Tilcon. Tranquillo had sent off survey data to Tilcon in August and was awaiting a reply regarding a solution. It needs to be taken care of before winter, when water collects there and causes a dangerous slippery area.

Overnight Parking Town Attorney Mark Sciota announced that the Board of Ethics has requested that the Parking Authority rescind the previous action authorizing overnight parking. After it is rescinded, the Ethics Board suggests that it be re-debated and re-voted, without Commissioner Florian's participation.

Commissioner Dziubek made a motion to rescind the action of June 15, 2011 and it was seconded by Commissioner Riccio. There was no discussion. The Chairman called for a roll call vote: Dziubek-yes, Riccio-yes, Solury-yes. Attorney Sciota requested that Overnight Parking be placed on the next agenda for full debate and vote.

Signs Commissioner Riccio reported on the sign project. The new signs have been installed. Some modifications were discussed. Signage in Plantsville and the My-Bar lot was discussed. Commissioner Dziubek commented that the price for these signs was exorbitant (\$640 each), when an in-town dealer would have provided adequate signage for 1/10 of the price. He feels it is a waste of the town's money. Commissioner Riccio rebutted. The signs meet state DOT codes, Sign-Pro is located in New Britain but the purveyor lives in Southington and Riccio's position is that the town has spent millions of dollars on the Renaissance project. Decorative lampposts and benches were purchased along with decorative curbing and sidewalks. These signs were custom-designed to enhance the image of the commercial area. Riccio is happy with the work and he reports that he has had a "lot of compliments" on the signs. There was a discussion about the progression of the project. Commissioner Dziubek again expressed his displeasure with the signs.

Handicapped Parking No report is available in the absence of Commissioner Babkirk-Rodrigues.

56 Center Street/Dumpster Mr. DelBuono did not return to pursue this. Commissioner Riccio reported that he has discussed this with DelBuono, who is working on it, but there is nothing new to report at this time. Attorney Sciota suggested that this be kept on the agenda for the next meeting.

Budget Chairman Solury discussed the budget for the upcoming fiscal year. He reviewed the carryovers in place: \$5200 for lot maintenance set aside to replace the mulch with rock with a goal to reduce maintenance costs. Commissioner Riccio stated his support for this project and Commissioner Dziubek agreed with him. There was a discussion about irrigation of the grass areas in some proximity to the fountain.

Adjournment Commissioner Dziubek made a motion to adjourn at 1:35 p.m. and it was seconded by Commissioner Riccio. All were in favor of adjournment.

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