

**TOWN OF SOUTHTON**  
**PARKING AUTHORITY**  
**Regular Meeting**  
**January 3, 2008**

A regular meeting of the Parking Authority of the Town of Southington was held on January 3, 2008 at 4:30 pm in the Town Council Chambers of the Southington Town Hall at 75 Main Street, Southington, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order by Rebecca Davis, Chairperson.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

The Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag was recited by everyone in attendance.

**Roll Call**

Mr. Salmeri, Mr. Myers, Ms. Zommer, Ms. Zoni and Ms. Davis, Chair.

A quorum was determined.

**Approval of Minutes of December 12, 2007.**

Ms. Zommer made a motion to approve the Minutes as presented. Mr. Myers seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**Election of Officers**

**STENOGRAPHER, presiding:**

**Chairman**

Nominations for the office of Chairman

Mr. Salmeri made a motion to nominate the current Chairman, Rebecca Davis. Ms. Zommer seconded.

Hearing no other nominations, the motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**REBECCA DAVIS, Assuming the Chair:**

**Vice Chairman**

Nominations for Vice Chairman.

Mr. Myers nominated Joseph Salmeri to be Vice Chairman.  
Ms. Zommer seconded.

Hearing no other nominations, the motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**Secretary**

Nominations for Secretary.

Mr. Salermi nominated Mr. Myers to be Secretary. Ms.  
Zommer seconded.

Hearing no other nominations, the motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

**Police Communications**

None to report.

**Public Communications**

Lou Perillo approached the Parking Authority regarding overnight parking downtown. He said that the tenants who do park overnight are being ticketed. He suggested maybe designating a special area where the tenants could park overnight and they would not be ticketed. Maybe a resident parking permit could be issued, with a possible fee, was brought up. He commented that the tenants would be receptive to moving their vehicles to allow for snow plowing.

The Center Street/Liberty Street lot would be the parking lot most affected.

After extensive discussion, Mr. Salmeri made a motion to place this item under New Business for further discussion later in the Agenda. Mr. Myers seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Mat Florian agreed with Lou Perillo's idea regarding the overnight parking.

He brought up this evening for discussion handicapped parking and 2-hour parking in the Riccio Way and D'Angelo Parking lots. He presented the Commission with a survey he had taken of his tenants as to their feelings regarding handicapped parking and 2 hour parking in the area. He indicated he could provide the original surveys with comments, if necessary.

The survey indicated the tenants in that area would like at least on an average 4 more handicapped and 15 more 2 hour parking spaces.

Discussion.

Mike Domian echoed Lou Perillo's comments. He clarified that the ticketing is not a result of weather, snow conditions. It's just the police up their patrol. He suggested that his tenants would be interested in signing a release of liability to the Town if they could be allowed to park overnight.

Discussion.

The Chair indicated she would discuss the matter with Town Officials and get back to Mr. Doliam.

#### **Commissioner Communications**

The Chair indicated she had a phone call from the Bank of American regarding show plowing their lot (Fleet Lot). And, the sidewalk from the Fleet Lot to the Bank of America. The sidewalk was covered with icy snow. She received this call on December 17, 2007.

After several calls, the Highway Department indicated they did not realize they were responsible for plowing that area. And, they indicated they had never done the sidewalk.

Because something had to be done immediately, the Chair contacted John Meade who came down immediately and snow plowed the lot and cleared the sidewalk.

After discussions with Town Officials, the Chair learned the Highway Department is supposed to plow the lot.

The Chair also indicated the American Legion representative called with a parking lot issue. The couldn't get

deliveries because it was not plowed. The Town Manager was informed and the issue was resolved.

On December 26, 2007, the Town Manager called the Chair to say that glass was reported in the Riccio Way parking lot. He requested the Chair get it removed. The Chair contacted John Meade once again and he came down and cleaned up the glass.

The Chair had a call from Mike Domian regarding the overnight parking downtown in the Liberty Street lot.

Mr. Salmeri indicated he had a call on December 15, 2007 from the American Legion and they were happy with what we did and were glad the issue was cleared up.

### **Submission of Bills and Payments**

Stenographer's bill in the amount of \$106.29. Mr. Myers made a motion to pay the bill. Ms. Zommer seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

Bill from John Meade for services rendered regarding the 98 Main Street parking lot for the monthly maintenance and services rendered to Bank of American and the cleaning up of glass at the Riccio Way lot. His invoice is for \$1,020 total.

Mr. Salmeri made a motion to pay the bill. Ms. Zommer seconded.

Mr. Myers was concerned that agreeing to pay for the extra services at the Riccio Way lot and the Fleet lot which he thought should have been done by the Town would create a precedent.  
Discussion.

The Chair indicated that the Town Manager had directed her to get the glass cleaned up and that's why she had contacted John Meade regarding the glass.  
Discussion.

(Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.)

### **Old Business**

#### 1. Handicapped Parking and Two Hour Parking

Discussion was had regarding the designation of parking in the Riccio Way lot.

Mr. Salmeri indicated he had provided the members with a copy of the statute regarding minimum parking space designation requirements. After a survey of the Riccio Way lot and the D'Angelo lot, we are well over the minimum spaces required for handicapped parking.

Extensive discussion followed regarding handicapped spaces.

Discussion followed regarding enforcement of the designated spaces in the parking lots being an issue.

Ms. Zoni brought up the fact that there are not rules for parking posted at the Riccio Way lot and perhaps a certain area for 2 hour parking could be designed with an overhead sign.

Extensive discussion.

The Chair indicated she would request Sargeant DePalma to attend the next Parking Authority Meeting to go over all of these issues. He would outline the enforcement aspect.

Extensive general discussion followed regarding the parking lots and the availability of handicapped and 2 hour parking spaces.

## 2. Rules and Regulations

The Chair indicated she had provided everyone with the current Rules and Regulations and a copy of the Rules and Regulations she had updated. She asked everyone to compare the two for discussion and approval at the next meeting.

## 3. Dumpsters

The Dumpster Application has been redone. The Rules for dumpsters were discussed.

## 4. Quinnipiac Lot

The members of the Parking Authority all had been to view the Quinnipiac Lot and agreed at this time there is no need to pave the lot this year. Because of an easement, the Chair indicated that when the lot is repaved, the entire lot will have to be done to include the easement area and some area beyond.

Discussion.

## 5. Parking Study

The Chair indicated she had spoken with the Town Planner about funds for a parking study. The Town Planner stated she had

asked for money in her budget for the study and the Parking Authority could just write a letter in support of the study for the Town Planner and not include the money in the Parking Authority Budget. The study will be for the downtown area and the Chair will speak with the Town Planner to clarify exactly what else is going to be included in the study.

6. B008 Budget

A line by line review with comments of the proposed budget was had. With some modifications to the amounts to be requested, Mr. Salmeri made a motion to accept the proposed budget. Ms. Zommer seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

7. D'Angelo Lot

The Chair indicated this lot is a ten year lease. There are 5 years left to the lease and typically negotiations begin when there are 3 years left to the lease.

**New Business**

**Contractor for "Immediate Needs"**

The Chair suggested the procedure is to report to the Town Manager and then he would call the Highway Department or the Parks and Rec Department. But we do need someone to call on if the Town staff is not available.

Discussion followed regarding the additional cost to pay the contractor to do work that is the responsibility of the Town's staff. We shouldn't set a precedent for spending twice. Discussion followed and everyone agreed not a good idea to set that precedent.

It was decided to get written clarification from the Town Attorney's Office on who is responsible and the Chair will speak to the Town Attorney on that issue and report back.

**Overnight Parking**

Discussion revolved around the fact that both tenants and businesses will be impacted. We need to have legal guidance on this before any changes are discussed. We are going to have a study in the future which will help us to know how we should address the downtown parking issues.

It was discussed that this will open up a lot of issues and it needs to be looked at very, very carefully.

Enforcement was discussed at length.

It was decided that the Chair would contact the police department to let them know what the Parking Authority has been advised of regarding the ticketing and what the Parking Authority is working on in response. All agreed it is not within the authority of the Parking Authority to tell other departments how to enforce rules and regulations.

It was noted it could become a snow plowing nightmare.

The Parking Authority will continue to research the issue.

### **Adjournment**

Ms. Zommer a motion to adjourn. Mr. Myers seconded. Motion passed unanimously on a voice vote.

(Whereupon, the meeting was adjourned at 6:35 o'clock, p.m.)

Rebecca Davis, Chair  
Parking Authority