

**TOWN OF SOUTHLINGTON
PARKING AUTHORITY
ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
JANUARY 22, 2009**

An organizational meeting of the Parking Authority, Town of Southington was held on January 22, 2009 in the Council Chambers of the Southington Town Hall, 75 Main Street, Southington, Connecticut. The meeting was called to order by Mark J. Sciota, Deputy Town Manager/Town Attorney at 4:32PM.

Attorney Sciota can be reached at the Town Hall, 860-276-6221 or by E-mail at sciotam@southington.org.

Roll Call

Present are Mark J. Dziubek, John J. Solury, Dolores Babkirk and temporary chairman, Mark J. Sciota.

A quorum is determined. There is one vacancy.

Temporary Chairman, Atty. Mark Sciota assuming the chair:

Attorney Sciota approved the minutes of the December 4, 2008 meeting administratively.

Election of Officers

The Chair opened nominations for Chairman of the Parking Authority.

Mr. Dziubek placed in nomination Ms. Babkirk. The nomination was seconded by Mr. Solury. Ms. Babkirk asked to discuss the duties involved, and a recess for caucus was called by the Chair. Ms. Kane arrived during the caucus.

The meeting was reconvened and Ms. Babkirk declined the nomination.

Attorney Sciota reopened the nominations for Chairman of the Parking Authority. Mr. Dziubek nominated Mr. Solury for Chairman. Ms. Kane seconded this nomination. No further nominations were heard; therefore nominations were closed. A roll call vote unanimously favored the election of Mr. Solury as Chairman of the Parking Authority.

Attorney Sciota, then opened the nominations for Vice Chairman. Mr. Dziubek nominated Ms. Kane for Vice Chairperson, second from Ms. Babkirk. No further nominations being heard, nominations for Vice Chairman were closed and election confirmed unanimously by roll call voice vote.

John Solury ascending Chair:

Public Communications

Councilman, Art Secondo of 1048 S. Main Street, Plantsville addressed the Parking Authority. He welcomed them individually and collectively, and reinforced the support of the Chamber of Commerce.

Councilman David Zoni, 340 Annelise Ave., speaking for himself and for the people of Southington, welcomed the new members of the Parking Authority citing their willingness to serve.

Commissioner's Communications

Chairman Solury expressed gratitude and best of luck to the previous Parking Authority members. He welcomed the new commissioners and thanked them for their willingness to serve the Town in this capacity.

Attorney Sciota addressed the panel and explained that his office is available to them at any time. He will provide all of the parking regulations by E-mail, he explained the scope of their responsibility: the maintenance and regulation of the municipal parking lots. He suggested that they drive through all of the lots to assess condition and cleanliness. He also explained the use of parking waivers in detail.

Mr. Solury asked Attorney Sciota for a list of the municipal parking lots and questioned the jurisdiction of on street parking. Attorney Sciota explained that the street parking is handled by the Southington Police Department. There was a detailed question and answer time and the panel's concerns were answered. Attorney Sciota indicated that former-Chairperson Rebecca Davis had expressed her willingness to consult with the Parking Authority at their pleasure, in any venue.

Submission of Bills and Payments

Mr. Dziubek made a motion to approve the bill from the stenographer for today's meeting in the amount of \$106. The motion was seconded by Ms. Kane. The motion passed on a voice roll call vote.

Old Business

None

New Business

BUDGET

The Parking Authority has reviewed the proposed budget. Chairman Solury asked about the "carryover" and Attorney Sciota explained that it represents funds allocated, but not used from the previous budget year. A motion was made by Ms. Babkirk, seconded by Mr. Dziubek to accept this proposed budget for 2009 in the amount of \$35,724 (including the carryover) and forward it to the Town Manager's office. A voice vote was unanimously in favor of this motion. Attorney Sciota explained that the budget could be altered by the Town Manager.

INCREASING PARKING FINES

The previous board had voted to increase two hour parking fines from \$10 to \$25. There was a discussion about the new policy. Ms. Babkirk shared with the panel the letter forwarded to Chief Daley in this regard. Consensus of the Parking Authority was to uphold this decision.

MISCELLANEOUS

Parking Waiver for 142 Center St.

Patricia Gibney of 684 East Street spoke to the panel. Her husband is planning a restaurant at 142 Center Street. The engineer has forwarded a letter asking an increase in parking spaces available, in light of the change in business from bakery to restaurant. Attorney Sciota explained to the panel the need for the change, in order to comply with Planning and Zoning regulations. Following some discussion, Mr. Dziubek made a motion to grant a waiver for the 15 additional spaces required and Ms. Kane seconded his motion. The motion was approved unanimously by roll call vote.

Parking Authority Meeting Time

There was a discussion about changing the time of the Parking Authority regular meeting. After some discussion, it was decided to table action on this until the final commissioner has been appointed and they have an opportunity to check the meeting calendar. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

Questions

Ms. Kane had some questions about two hour parking signage and this was explained by Attorney Sciota and discussed. She also had some questions regarding the proposed concrete pad project for downtown dumpsters.

Ms. Kane questioned whether the downtown businesses might be willing to share the expense of a parking study. This was discussed among the commissioners. Mr. Solury suggested that it might be prudent to get the thoughts on the parking study issue from the previous Parking Authority as a starting point.

Adjournment

Adjournment was entertained by the Chair. Motion made by Mr. Dziubek, seconded by Ms. Babkirk. All were in favor by voice vote. Adjournment was announced by Chairman Solury at 1700:23.

John Solury, Chairman
Town of Southington
Parking Authority