

TOWN OF SOUTHLINGTON
PARKING AUTHORITY
December 7, 2011

A regular meeting of the Town of Southington Parking Authority on Wednesday December 7, 2011 in the Town Council Chambers, Town Hall, 75 Main Street, Southington, CT. The meeting was called to order by Chairman John J. Solury, Jr. at 1:04 p.m.

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

Roll Call Present: Chairman John J. Solury, Jr., Commissioners Kelly DelDebbio, Mathew Florian and Michael Riccio. A quorum is determined.

Chairman Solury welcomed Commissioner Kelly DelDebbio to the Parking Authority.

Approval of Minutes of November 9, 2011. The minutes were administratively approved since there was no quorum at the November meeting.

Chairman John Solury turned the meeting over to the Recording Secretary for election of the Chairman. Janice Eisenhauer opened the floor to nominations for Chairman. Commissioner DelDebbio nominated Michael Riccio for Chairman. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Solury. There were no further nominations and nominations for Chairman were closed. A roll call vote was called for: Solury-yes, DelDebbio-yes, Florian-yes, Riccio-yes.

Chairman Michael Riccio assumes the chair.

Chairman Riccio opened the floor to nominations for Vice Chairman. Commissioner Solury nominated Commissioner DelDebbio for Vice Chairman. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Florian. There were no further nominations and nominations for Vice Chairman were closed. The Chairman called for a roll call vote: DelDebbio-yes, Solury-yes, Riccio-yes, Florian-yes.

Submissions of Bills and Payments Past Chairman Solury administrated the outstanding bills. He presented two bills from the stenographer, November and December, 2011 in the amount of \$125 each. The next bill presented was for the November lot maintenance in the amount of \$750, a contractual obligation. Solury explained that with this bill ends the 2011 contractual obligation to Schmidt Lawn Care Maintenance.

Chairman Riccio thanked Commissioner Solury for his leadership. He outlined his goals for the next year or two. He would like the dumpster pad issue resolved and common dumpsters downtown. He speaks of the benefits to the people who patronize the restaurants, and those who use the parking lots. He wants to see the updated signage completed. He spoke about the funding of this project. He reports positive feedback on those that have been placed. He expects transformation of downtown with the new construction at Ideal Forging and he thinks

it would be a good idea to review uses of downtown buildings, so that as businesses and tenants change, the character of the downtown will not be altered. He hopes to open discussion with town staff to begin design of the parking lot at lower Center Street, to keep costs minimal. He then expects to bring it to the Town Council. Riccio feels that it is the responsibility of the Parking Authority to move the concept forward. The last issue is overnight parking. A public hearing will be scheduled for that purpose. Commissioner Solury had some comment on Riccio's remarks. He reviewed the extensive work done by himself and Commissioner Florian to arrive at a plan for common dumpsters. He welcomes that again. There were issues about placement, but many businesses were interested in cooperating. Solury wondered what Riccio meant about "building uses." Riccio explained that businesses that have been present for a long time might not meet current regulations. There was a discussion about that being a P&Z issue. Commissioner Florian spoke briefly on the common dumpster pad issue. He acknowledges the time spent on that, but feels that it is worth pursuing, in the interest of aesthetics and practicality. Riccio has pursued the cost of the new signage for the new budget. Solury recalls that they are \$640 each, to the best of his recollection.

Public Communications None

Commissioner Communications None

Overnight Parking Chairman Riccio called for a Public Hearing in January on overnight parking to begin the process again per the Ethics Committee. He recommended limitation to the original request of 6 residential parking spaces. Commissioner Florian recused himself and took a seat in the audience. Additionally, there is a request for 7 parking spaces for the use of Simon DelBuono, to be established when he signs a contract with the town for permanent easement on his property at the intersection of Liberty St and Center St, behind the buildings. Commissioner DelDebbio made a motion to establish a public hearing on January 11 to discuss making available 6 spaces for residential overnight parking. There was no second to her motion. Commissioner Florian returned to his seat at the podium.

Signs Chairman Riccio reported that he has been in contact with Sign Pro. There was a discussion about poles. He recommended that the Parking Authority approach the Board of Finance about completing this project. Commissioner Solury made Chairman Riccio aware that there are some signs that belong to the Parking Authority stored in the Parks and Rec Building. He mentioned the ongoing issues at the Hearthstone Parking Lot. The lot has not been adopted yet. There was a discussion about the funding of the signs in the Hearthstone lot.

Handicapped Parking Commissioner Babkirk-Rodrigues is not available to report on this. Solury gave a quick update for the benefit of Commissioner DelDebbio. The handicapped parking spaces need to be reviewed and brought into line with new state regulations. Riccio will discuss this with Babkirk-Rodrigues and the Building Department.

56 Center Street/Dumpster Commissioner Florian reported. He is working with Mr. DelBuono to make better arrangements for the dumpster. DelBuono is trying to facilitate this project working with other businesses.

DelBuono is not present at this meeting. Commissioner Florian will speak with DelBuono again. They are not in agreement on location for the common dumpster.

Budget Commissioner Solury reminded Riccio that the budget must be submitted in mid- January to the Town Manager. In the past a round table workshop has worked well to formulate this. Commissioner Solury provided background on the contract with Schmidt Landscaping Co. and the cost as compared to past service. Riccio commented that he thinks the lots look better than they used to. Solury referred Riccio to review the decimation that has taken place in the grounds maintenance account in the past few years. Riccio expressed his opinion that the new signage should be a priority item in the upcoming budget. Riccio will present a sign proposal for the new budget at the next meeting.

Calendar 2012 There was a short discussion about meeting day/time for the upcoming year. It was decided to continue to meet on the second Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. Chairman Riccio will submit the 2012 schedule to Town Clerk Leslie Cotton.

Adjournment Commissioner Solury made a motion to adjourn at 2:50 p.m. His motion was seconded by Commissioner DelDebbio and all were agreed on adjournment.

Chairman Michael Riccio
Parking Authority
Town of Southington