



Parking Advisory Committee Meeting 04/07/2021

Minutes

Attendees: Mike Manzella, James Bonanno, Gene Dello, Jill Potter, William West, John Moor, Jordan Modell, Maggie Quinton

1. Roll Call
2. Salute to the Flag
3. Public Comment

No public comment was made
4. Matters from the Director of Transportation
 - a. Looking for a new Parking Permit Vendor

Staff informed the Parking Committee that the City is looking for a new Online Parking Permit Vendor.
5. New Business
 - a. Fisherman's Parking Lot

The Parking Committee was made aware that the ordinance proposed at the March 3, 2021 Committee Meeting to limit parking in the Fisherman's Lot Parking Lot to 3 hours between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. was approved by the City Council on 3/24/2021 and will be reviewed in a public hearing on April 14, 2021.
6. New Business
 - a. Adam's Street Ordinance

Staff introduced the Committee to an ordinance introduced to the City Council on March 3, 2021 to designate Adam's Street one-way Westbound and limit parking to the south side, and remove parking from eastern sides of Sylvan Avenue from Springwood Avenue to Boston Way, Atkins Avenue from Springwood Avenue to Adam's Street, and Avenue A from Springwood Avenue to Adam's Street.

Staff explained these changes are in preparation for new development currently being built along Springwood Avenue and Adam's Street that is predicted to increase parking demand and limit parking space due to new driveways. New single-family homes are being constructed on Springwood Avenue with driveway access from Adam's Street. Adam's Street's narrow width make sit difficult to support two-way traffic and parking on

opposite sides, the change to one-way and parking on the southside will allow for traffic to flow impeded when new development is completed. Sylvan Avenue which is currently one-way south will provide Access to Adam's Street. The removal or parking on the eastern side of this road decrease potential conflicts in the future. Similar situations are present at Atkins Avenue, and Avenue A where new development is currently being planned. There are no approved plans at this time but any new development will increase travel and parking demand on these narrow roads. Removing parking on one the eastern side of these roads will decrease potential future conflicts and provide safe access to Springwood Avenue.

The Ordinance will be reviewed at a public hearing scheduled for April 28, 2021

b. Alleyway One-Way Ordinance

Staff informed the Committee of concerns that have been raised by the public regarding Alleyways and Lanes on the Northwest side of the City. Witnesses have reported vehicles speeding and operating unsafely as well as blocking these narrow public rights of way. As a solution, The City Council introduced an ordinance on March 24, 2021 designating the Alleyways as one-way traffic, prohibiting parking, and implementing stop signs at all road intersections.

Roseland Lane, Fisch's Lane, and Charm's Lane are to be one-way westbound traffic while Cuba Lane, and Albion Lane are to be Eastbound one-way traffic. Sections of Alleyways that have no outlet such as Kershaw Lane and portions of Roseland Lane, Charm's Lane, and Albion Lane will continue to support two-way traffic.

While traffic is to be prohibited on the public right of way, parking on private property accessible by the alleyways will not be prohibited.

The Ordinance will be reviewed at a public hearing scheduled for April 28, 2021

c. Paid Parking on Main Street

With construction on Main Street nearing completion Staff recommended now would be an appropriate time to install signage and striping for metered parking as established in Ordinance 2017-14. Ordinance 2017-14 established metered parking along Main Street extending from Springwood Avenue to Summerfield Avenue. In addition to the current construction, the upcoming opening of Cookman Avenue to pedestrians creates an even greater demand for parking along Main Street that can be managed using paid parking.

The Council voiced concerns regarding the installation of parking meters, and whether the City is permitted to meter a state-maintained roadway such as Main Street (State Route 71). Staff responded that the parking phone applications have become so popular that there is no need for additional parking meters along Main Street. With only signage to install, the City should not need NJ DOT approval to implement paid parking on Main Street but Staff has reached out to NJDOT to discuss this topic.

The Committee favored paid parking from Lake Avenue to Summerfield Avenue but requested to be informed of NJ DOT's response to Staff questions before advising the City Council.

d. Developers Use of Paid Parking

The Parking Committee discussed developers' use of paid parking spots for staging during construction and the loss of parking and revenue not being accounted for in the permitting process.

e. Extended Vehicle Parking

Mr. Dello raised the issue that there are a number of vehicles that have been parked on City streets throughout the winter without being moved. These vehicles are collecting debris and occupying parking spaces for months at a time. He believes they are owned by people who have second homes elsewhere in the country and leave their vehicles behind to avoid paying to relocate them. These vehicles do not qualify as abandoned under the city ordinance and there is currently no way under the current laws to have these vehicles moved.

After much discussion, it was determined that alternate side parking is not planned to extend to the locations these vehicles are currently being parked and the best course of action would be to draft an ordinance establishing any vehicles that remain stationary for greater than thirty days will be towed. A similar system to that used for abandoned vehicles regarding owner notification would be implemented to encourage these vehicles be moved. The Parking Committee directed Staff to draft this ordinance for their review at their May 5, 2021 Meeting.

7. Adjournment