



CITY OF TAUNTON
PARKING COMMISSION MEETING
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
February 21, 2023
2:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Chairman James Dorsey, Jr.
Manuel Spencer, Commissioner
Chief Edward J. Walsh

Rebecca McGovern, Parking Enforcement Officer

Ligia Madeira, Esq.,
Chief of Staff

Commissioner Spencer makes a motion to accept the minutes from the January 10, 2023 meeting. Chief Walsh seconds the motion.

Leonard Street Parking Garage Cameras – Chief Walsh states that the garage is in need of a new camera system which would cost approximately \$30,000.00. He is looking for authorization for this purchase and expresses the need to have cameras in the garage. Commissioner Spencer makes a motion to approve the new video system for the garage. Chief Walsh seconds the motion. Motion passes.

Lake Sabbatia Parking – Commissioner Spencer makes a motion to invite Mrs. Madeira into the meeting. Chief Walsh seconds the motion. Motion passes. Chief Walsh explains that the Mayor's office is looking for parking enforcement over at the boat ramp on Lake Sabbatia. He adds that there are people who are avoiding the parking fees for Watson's Pond by parking over at the boat ramp. The Chief proposes two regulations: the first is §301-06 which outlines the policy for launching a watercraft at Lake Sabbatia and the parking guidelines. The second regulation §301-07 proposes the following fees: \$8.00/day and \$35.00 for non-Massachusetts vehicles which is consistent with State Park fees. If the Commission approves this fee structure, then the parking enforcement and/or police department can monitor the lot and ticket if needed. Chairman Dorsey inquires if there is a plan the Commission can review? Discussion ensues over the plan. It is added that the State is funding the project. Commissioner Spencer makes a motion to adopt the two regulations as presented by Chief Walsh. Chief Walsh seconds the motion. Motion passes.

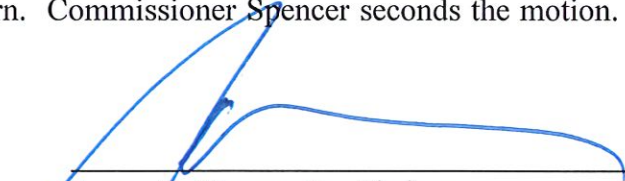
Campers, Motorhomes and Trailers - Chief Walsh states that there is a camper parked in the Whittenton lot continuously. He presents a regulation (§301-05) which would prohibit overnight camper and trailer parking in municipal parking lots. Discussion ensues regarding time restraints and if car carriers should be included as well. Chairman Dorsey feels that it is a good idea to include car carriers. Chief Walsh suggests no parking between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. unless prior permission is granted from the Parking Commission. The Commissioners agree on this time period. Chief Walsh makes a motion to adopt regulation 301-05 as stated and amended. Commissioner Spencer seconds the motion. Motion passes.

Charging Stations/Pleasant Street Lot - Chairman Dorsey explains that the Commission received a memo from TJ Torres, the grant writer from EOCD regarding the status of the electric charging stations and the Pleasant Street lot. Chairman Dorsey reads the memo into the record. Chief Walsh makes a motion to mark the memo as received and placed on file. Commissioner Spencer seconds the motion. Motion passes. Chief Walsh advises the Commission that Paul Arikian, IT Director has programmed the electric charging machines to start charging fees and we should be good to go. It is mentioned that the Commission will need to order signs.

Galligan's Court – Chairman Dorsey states that there have been complaints received about the condition of Galligan's Court. It is his understanding that these complaints revolve around the condition of the lot, trash overflowing from the dumpster and dog feces. Chairman Dorsey makes a motion to invite Colleen Simmons from the Downtown Taunton Foundation into the meeting. Commissioner Spencer seconds the motion. Mrs. Simmons states that she has received emails from citizens regarding concerns about people walking their dogs through the lot and not cleaning up after them. Discussion ensues regarding the condition of the lot. Chairman Dorsey inquires as to where we are with the discontinuance of Howard Street. The Recording Secretary states she has not received anything from the Law Department. Chairman Dorsey requests that we invite the Law Department and Randy Collins from BETA to the next meeting to discuss the status of the discontinuance of Howard Street and the status of the plans for Galligan's Court, with a date certain for completion. If they are unable to attend the meeting, they may respond by written communication.

Next meeting is scheduled for March 7, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

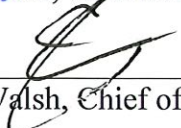
Chief Walsh makes a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Spencer seconds the motion. Meeting adjourns at 2:39 p.m.



James R. Dorsey, Jr., Chairman



Manuel Spencer, Commissioner



Edward J. Walsh, Chief of Police