

PARKING AUTHORITY MINUTES

PARKING AUTHORITY SEPTEMBER 22, 2004 REGULAR MEETING

ATTENDANCE: Urban Mulvehill, Chair; Troy Jellerette; Burt Shatz

STAFF: Hal Alvord, Director DPW; Kathryn Hebert, Administrative Services Manager;
Ed Schmidt, Assistant to the Mayor

OTHERS: Frank Del Monaco, Mike Kuziak, Cornelius Thomson, LAZ

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Mulvehill called the meeting to order at 7:40 p.m.

APPROVE THE MINUTES FROM THE PARKING AUTHORITY MEETING HELD
ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 25, 2004

The following corrections were made:

Page 1: delete "narrow"

Page 3: correct the following sentences to read – Mr. Shahjahan asked if this would put them over budget. Mr. Mulvehill explained that the previous proposal was for people to drive in, get their ticket and get it processed on the other side, but this ...

Page 4: correct sentence to read: It was stated probably not, because they are to be located on the sidewalk, and approached by foot.

Page 7: correct sentence to read: Mr. Schmidt said parking enforcement in Norwalk goes into the evening hours, but for Wall Street the parking hours are only up to 6:00 p.m.

Page 9: correct motion to read: A motion was made to adjourn

** MR. MULVEHILL MOVED TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES AS CORRECTED

** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

APPROVALS/AUTHORIZATIONS

** MR. MULVEHILL MOVED THE FOLLOWING

AUTHORIZE THE PARKING AUTHORITY TO APPOINT HAL ALVORD,
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS AS THE BOARD MEMBER OF THE SOUTH
NORWALK RAILROAD STATION CONDOMINIUM ASSOCIATION AND
AUTHORIZE THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS DESIGNEE, KATHRYN
HEBERT, ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES MANAGER, TO ATTEND MEETINGS IN
HIS ABSENCE

** MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

DISCUSSION

SONO AREA

UPDATE AND STATUS OF ALL FACILITIES

Mr. Del Monaco reviewed his written report.

Webster Lot

Mr. Del Monaco noted that the island construction at the Martin Luther King Drive side of the Webster Street parking lot has been completed. They are in the process of working with the tenants of 50 Washington Street so that they can register their cars on line.

Haviland Parking Deck

Mr. Del Monaco reported that he is working with the Redevelopment Agency to work out a better refuse system at the Haviland Parking Deck. Mr. Schmidt added that there is a plan to place a compactor on the site. It will take up less room than the dumpsters. The property owners and tenants will have to pay for this.

Mr. Alvord commented that he hopes that whatever procedure is put in place will be a model for the other lots. The condo association needs to have daily trash pickup - not weekly pickup.

North Water Street

Mr. Del Monaco reported that they are waiting for the delivery of the pay-n-display equipment.

RAILROAD STATIONS

UPDATE AND STATUS OF RAILROAD STATIONS

South Norwalk Train Station

Mr. Del Monaco reported that they are restructuring the parking lot on the eastbound side of the train station. Mr. Mulvehill said that he was pleased to see people there during the transition. Mr. Mulvehill said that the drop off/pick up area is very congested. He suggested adding signage that states, "15 minute pick up and drop off parking". Mr. Mulvehill said that the grass strip is rather wide and suggested narrowing it and creating more drop off and pick up parking spaces.

Mr. Jellerette asked the number of parking spaces at the train station. Mr. Del Monaco said that there are 720 parking spaces; however, 15-18% of the monthly permit holders do not show up on any given day.

Mr. Del Monaco said that more lighting is being added; in addition, the staff if requested will escort people to their cars. Mr. Del Monaco said that there are a few items he wants accomplished before the commuter appreciation breakfast.

East Norwalk Train Station

Mr. Del Monaco reported that the project is being finalized and they hope to break ground by mid October.

WALL STREET AREA

UPDATE AND STATUS OF ALL PARKING FACILITIES

Yankee Doodle Garage

Mr. Del Monaco reported that they are waiting for the delivery of the pay-n-display units.

Isaac Street Parking Lot

Mr. Jellerette commented on the poor condition of the walkway. Mr. Alvord explained that the trash was hauled away and the DPW crew did a general clean up. The City owns the alley. Mr. Schmidt said that the problem is that both sides of the alley are unoccupied.

ON STREET METERS

UPDATE AND STATUS OF ALL AREAS

OTHER

Parking Bureau

Mr. Del Monaco reported that the offices were transferred from City Hall to the Maritime Garage. The move went very well and he complemented Net Tech on their professionalism. They now have a 7-day a week operation underway.

Mr. Del Monaco said that he would provide the quarterly violation report for the next meeting. Mr. Mulvehill said that a lot of cars are parking along the curb near The Maritime Aquarium and suggested ticketing those cars.

Maintenance

Mr. Del Monaco said that they have assumed full responsibility for maintaining all of the facilities. The Haviland Street lot continues to be a challenge. A second sweeper will arrive shortly and will be stationed at the Yankee Doodle Garage.

Security

Mr. Del Monaco said that the vendor is fully engaged and he has received a number of favorable comments about them. They began a number of operational changes such as locking down the South Norwalk train station during non-commuter hours.

Way Finding Signs

Mr. Del Monaco reported that he has received some competitive bids for the fabrication and installation of the signs.

REPORT ON THE STATUS OF ACS PARKING VIOLATION COLLECTION OPERATION

Mr. Del Monaco reported that he is presently going through the extensive data that was transferred and putting together a strategy to collect the outstanding violations. Mr. Mulvehill asked if they could restrict motor vehicle registration for someone who owes outstanding violations. Mr. Del Monaco explained that a person has to have 5 or more violations to restrict vehicle registration.

SWEARING IN LAZ EMPLOYEES AS CONSTABLES

Mr. Del Monaco said that he is finishing the administrative process. He hopes to have all of the employees sworn in within the next week or two, which will be in concert with the installation of the new meters.

Mr. Mulvehill asked Mr. Del Monaco if he is concerned about any qualification hurdles. Mr. Del Monaco replied that he is confident that all of the people who have been put forward will be able to meet the criteria. He added that they will get trained on the new equipment as well as how to respond to people who will be upset about getting violations.

Mr. Schmidt asked how the addition of Constables would impact the hand-helds. Mr. Del Monaco said that it would not have an impact. Mr. Schmidt suggested increasing the number of hand-helds. Ms. Hebert said that they cost \$3,000. each and suggested getting everyone sworn in and seeing how it works.

UPDATE WAYFINDING SIGNS

This item was covered under Mr. Del Monaco's report.

STATUS OF PLANS FOR ESTABLISHING INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER AT THE SOUTH NORWALK RAILROAD STATION

Mr. Schmidt reported that the City has hired Chan Krieger & Associates. Mr. Krieger has identified 3 opportunity sites within the area. The current plan is to explore the possibility of creating an intermodal facility. If the plan is adopted by the Planning Commission, it would be included the Master Plan of Development.

Mr. Schmidt said that the South Norwalk Train Station is the only major train station on the Metro North line without an intermodal facility. He said that the immediate neighborhood would benefit from the addition of a bus system hub.

Mr. Schmidt explained that other cities received substantial funding for this project because they had a plan and applied for federal funding. Norwalk has never had a plan, nor applied for funding. Each day, 28,000 people commute into Norwalk. If they had better options, more people would take the train.

PUBLIC WORKS OPENHOUSE

Ms. Hebert announced that the Department of Public Works is holding their first open house on October 16, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

There was no further business and the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemarie Lombardi
Telesco Secretarial Services

