

## **PARKING COMMISSION**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2012 – 6:00PM**

**CITY HALL BUILDING, CONFERENCE ROOM 2A**

Meeting called to order at 6:00pm

Roll Call. Present: Alderman Marsala, Swangstu, Fleming, Smith, and Hennerley. Also present: Aldermen O'Neill and Mott, Mayor Connors, Administrator Jordan.

Fleming/Swangstu motion to approve minutes of January 10, 2012 meeting. Unanimously carried.

### **Comments from the public.**

Alderman O'Neill commented on the location of the kiosks and the safety of the slabs.

### **Length of meter time.**

Administrator Jordan explained that most of the meters are 4-hour; they had talked at the last meeting of making them 5-hour after considering how long it would take most people to do what they want to do. Discussion followed on the pros and cons of longer hours, abuses of refeeding the meters, having a parking area for employees, limiting areas where residents with stickers can park, cost of parking, changing senior citizens' parking to two hours, possibility of pay-by-phone and other options.

Smith/Marsala motion to change 4-hour meters to 5-hour, 30-minute meters to 25-minute and 12-minute meters to 15-minute. Unanimously carried.

### **Handicapped stalls on street, not lots**

Administrator Jordan said the state statutes require a certain amount of handicapped stalls in lots but not on streets. He suggested all handicapped parking spaces be in the lots with the retaining of current ones on the street that are next to an alley which gives those with wheel chairs more room. Those with handicapped placards can park free at any stall.

Fleming/Marsala motion to instruct Kerri to draw up a map of all handicapped spaces in the lots and on the street, and also on that map to mark off 50% of the street spaces we would like to eliminate, for the Commission to review. Unanimously carried.

### **Free parking for residents – general discussion of limiting free, two-hour parking to certain areas**

After discussion, the consensus was that the Commission does not want to get rid of the free two-hour parking.

Flemming/Swangstu motion to create one 2-hour sticker type valid for two years for residents, seniors and Walworth County purchasers. Unanimously carried.

### **General discussion of parking ramp**

Mr. Fleming explained that if we are considering a parking ramp, it will need to be funded with the TIF and money would need to be set aside now before it runs out.

Discussion followed including what would be required to go ahead with this, what is budgeted, TIF use, support of the current Council, possible needs in the future, and the effect of removing parking spaces. Chairman Smith suggested that they gather more information in order to present a plan that is approved by the Parking Commission and BID.

Fleming/Swangstu motion to continue this to the March meeting. Unanimously carried.

### **Removing/adjusting parking spaces at Main and Broad and Main and Cook to improve traffic flow**

After discussion, it was agreed it would be better to make the spaces that are causing traffic congestion at these locations into compact car spaces rather than removing them.

Smith/Fleming motion to change two spaces at each of these intersections to compact car parking. Unanimously carried. Mayor Connors suggested a joint meeting with the Public Works Committee to discuss lane markings and other traffic flow issues.

### **Review of the Winterfest shuttle bus**

The shuttle bus worked well and the drivers were courteous. The new signs and promotion by the Chamber of Commerce were very helpful.

### **Discussion of whether to hold the February 21 meeting and scheduling March meeting and beyond**

It was decided to cancel the February 21 meeting and coordinate a joint meeting with the Public Works Committee in March. Their regular meetings will be held the third Tuesday of every month. The next meeting will be March 20, 2012. Mayor Connors asked that adding more compact car spaces on lower Center be on the next Parking Commission meeting agenda. The ordinance needs to be changed so it would be best if they could make all the changes in one ordinance.

Fleming/Swangstu motion to adjourn at 9:00pm. Unanimously carried.

Transcribed from audio tape.

/s/Artis Roenspies, Deputy Clerk