

Town of Ridgefield  
Parking Authority Regular Meeting  
December 15, 2022 – 8:00 a.m.  
Town Hall Lower Level Conference Room, 400 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT  
MEETING MINUTES – APPROVED

**Members present:**

J. Wilmot, E. Burns, M. Recck

**Members absent:**

None

**Present: L. Yarrish, Parking Enforcement Officer**

Chairman Recck called the meeting to order at 8:02 a.m.

1. Approval of minutes from 11/10/22. Mr. Recck moved, and Ms. Wilmot seconded, approval of minutes for 11/10/22. Motion passed 3 – 0.
2. 470 Main St. parking spaces update. Ms. Burns attended the Police Commission meeting on Thursday, November 10 to request 2 of the 4 new spaces in front of 470 Main Street (Silver Lining Consignments) be designated as “15 minute parking-loading zone” to ensure that the new spaces do not negatively impact Silver Lining’s operations, which require delivery and pickup of large and bulky items on consignment. Despite her initial discussions with Chief Kreitz (which seemed favorable to such a designation), he and the Commission had concerns that other businesses on Main Street (such as Planet Pizza) would request a similar change. Chief Kreitz indicated that he would have to poll all the businesses on Main Street before making the request to the CT-DOT. The Commission decided to wait until the project is completed and reassess.
3. 440 Main Street parking update. Ms. Burns did not yet email the landlord to request a change to the signage directly behind the building to “no permit parking”. She will do so before the next meeting.
4. Bailey Avenue lot update (outdoor dining setups). On November 12, Ms. Burns emailed the owner of the Big Shop Lane regarding the spaces lost to Terra Sole outdoor dining setups in front of the Big Shop. The response was non-committal, but in late November, the dining setup was removed and the parking spaces are again available. Mr. Yarrish indicated that many employees of the nearby restaurants continue to park in the lot, and that it is full every day. Mr. Recck will send an email to First Selectman Marconi to inquire about the tent setup by Bailey’s Backyard which is located in the town’s part of the Bailey Avenue lot and which occupies about 5 parking spaces. The town installed the concrete barriers which would have to be removed for the spaces to become available again, even when the tent is taken down. Although it is too late for the holiday shopping season, the PA will make a big push to encourage landlords and business owners to encourage employees to park in the town’s Governor Street lot. Ms. Burns will gather email addresses and draft a letter before the next meeting.
5. CVS/USPS lots update. Mr. Recck received an email from Lisa Quattrocchi (Benenson Real Estate) regarding the status of the USPS spaces. It is unclear what the status of these discussions are, and what the USPS is willing to do, since they still control the lot. Geoffrey Morris of the ECDC is also involved in these discussions. Mr. Recck will follow up with

First Selectman Marconi to see what is happening with any discussions. In the meantime, the lot is not patrolled and consequently it is being extensively used by employees of many other businesses (non-tenants of Benenson).

6. Parking fines update. Mr. Yarrish noted that some of the parking limit signs were installed incorrectly and had them corrected. He learned that there is another delay in receiving the new traffic lights, which are now scheduled for February. Improvement in traffic flow will not occur until the new synchronized lights are installed. Mr. Recck reported that there were 130 parking violations issued in the past month – 57 for overtime violations, and 54 at the Branchville Train Station. The remainder were for other violations now subject to the higher fees. Mr. Yarrish reported that new signs were installed for the additional daily parking spaces the PA approved last month. There are now 20 daily spaces, up from 10. The Ridgefield resident who contacted the PA regarding the lack of daily spaces thanked M. Recck for his follow up and response. Mr. Yarrish also reported that we continue to have 5 day/week enforcement, with Katie Knoche working Monday & Tuesday, and he is working Wednesday to Friday.
7. Prepare and finalize 2023 meeting attendance documents. Ms. Burns will submit the required attendance document to town hall. The 2023 meeting schedule was voted upon (3-0): All at 8 am, January 19, February 16, March 16, April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20, August 17, September 21, October 19, November 16, December 14.
8. Other business. None
9. Adjournment. Ms. Burns moved, and Mr. Recck seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:02 a.m. Motion approved 3 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Burns