

Town of Ridgefield
Parking Authority Regular Meeting
Wednesday, February 6, 2019 – 7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Upper Level Conference Room, 400 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT
MEETING MINUTES –UNREVISED/UNAPPROVED

Members present:

J. Wilmot, E. Burns, S. Lussier, A. Ippoliti

Members absent:

R. Murphy

Chairman Wilmot called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

1. Approval of January 10, 2019 Meeting Minutes. **Ms. Lussier moved and Mr. Ippoliti seconded a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion passed 4 – 0.**
2. Update on Benenson License Agreement. Chairman Wilmot reported that she had not received a response from Benenson regarding the final outstanding issues on the License Agreement. She called and spoke with Kem Becovic who said that Ms. Quattrocchi was out of town until “next Friday”. It was not clear if he meant 2/1 or 2/8. It was decided to wait until 2/13 to hear from them, and if not, to follow up with a letter indicating that we could no longer patrol the lot until an agreement was reached.
3. Update on Letter to request an appointment in front of P&Z to discuss CBD parking regulations. Ms. Burns distributed the letter she had sent last July requesting a meeting with the P&Z regarding Section 7.3.C.1 of the Zoning Regulations which covers parking requirements in the CBD. She explained the upcoming meetings for the new Plan of Conservation & Development, at least one of which will pertain this subject, and that it might be best to present our information in this forum rather than at a P&Z meeting. These meetings are described as “Listening Sessions”. Due to the cancellation of the first session due to weather, the second session (Topics related to Development) is now scheduled for April 2, and the third session (Topics related to Infrastructure) will be held on May 7. It is unclear which one CBD parking would fall under. Chairman Wilmot will contact Assistant Planner Daniel Robinson to discuss. Ms. Wilmot also indicated that some towns have imposed restrictions or caps on new restaurants due to the burden they create for parking, dumpsters, sewer usage, etc. Ms. Burns will look into this.
4. Discussion of the CBD parking situation and the upcoming Plan of Conservation & Development meetings. Discussion was covered in Item 3.
5. Update on Post Office Parking project. Mr. Ippoliti spoke with Charles Robbins, who had created a concept plan for the vacant lot next to the Post Office (which is leased by the USPS from Benenson). Mr. Robbins explained what they had in mind. Mr. Ippoliti then spoke by phone with the Ridgefield Postmaster (George Jacob). Mr. Jacob told him how difficult it had been to get approval to raze the abandoned house on the property. Mr. Ippoliti explained what we hope to do, with the USPS permission, to create additional parking and a small pocket park on the street side of the parcel. He explained that the Parking Authority was not seeking funds from the USPS, and that the project would benefit everyone – the citizens of Ridgefield as well as the Ridgefield Post Office operations. Mr. Jacobs suggested we send a proposal and he would forward it to the Legal Department. Following a discussion of how best to proceed, it was decided that Mr. Ippoliti will set up a meeting with First Selectman Marconi and Charles Robbins so we can obtain all of the

information they have and to get their input on how best to move this project forward. If three or more members of the Parking Authority decide to attend as well, Chairman Wilmot will post it as a Special Meeting.

6. Other Business.

- a) Ms. Lussier obtained the mapping file she requested from the Engineering Department, and is working on overlaying it with Google Maps data. She will bring her work to our next regular meeting.
- b) Chairman Wilmot reported that Shane Casey has a drawing of how a temporary lot on his Bailey Avenue property could be paved and striped to create 30 spaces. He plans to approach nearby property owners to see if they are willing to participate financially. If so, the lot would probably be a “permitted” lot, with Landlords issuing permits to their tenants for unrestricted parking. The Parking Authority would likely need to patrol the lot. Mr. Marconi has indicated the town would pave and stripe the lot and install lighting.

Adjournment. **Mr. Ippoliti moved, and Ms. Lussier seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:14 pm.**
Motion passed 4 – 0.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Burns