

Town of Ridgefield
Parking Authority Regular Meeting
Tuesday, July 17, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
Town Hall Small Conference Room, 400 Main Street, Ridgefield, CT
MEETING MINUTES-APPROVED

Members present:

J. Wilmot, E. Burns, S. Lussier, R. Murphy

Others present:

S. Dornfeld, Ridgefield Parking Appeals Officer

Chairman Wilmot called the meeting to order at 7:11 pm

1. Approval of July 5, 2018 Meeting Minutes. **R. Murphy moved, and S. Lussier seconded a motion to approve the minutes as submitted. Motion passed 4 – 0.**

2. Public comment:

Sharon Dornfeld introduced herself, explaining that she has been serving as the Parking Appeals Officer for nearly 30 years. She wanted to bring to our attention some recurring issues she has experienced and that she feels should be resolved. She receives appeals on many parking tickets with additional fines that are inconsistent with the information on the ticket itself and for which inadequate notice is provided. These issues come up when the violator receives a delinquency notice or when they eventually are unable to renew a DMV registration. The tickets specify that the fine is \$15, and doubles after 14 days, and further penalties apply after 30 days. This is inadequate notice, and should be corrected. Many tickets with fines are coming in at \$35, which is not correct. She also questioned the assessment of fines at the Branchville Station lot, which is also not adequately noticed.

She also requested that when the PA finalizes the new parking plan and new signage is ordered, that they are clear with respect to where permit parking is allowed or not allowed, and the time limit signs have arrows or some other means to indicate that the space is time-limited. She would prefer to not have to dismiss tickets but if the signage is not clear, it is difficult. A general discussion of the parking signage then took place, with Ms. Dornfeld offering some ideas based upon her experience with the excuses that people offer to request that their tickets be dismissed.

Ms. Wilmot thanked Ms. Dornfeld for coming in and sharing her perspective on the permit/ticketing systems. Ms. Wilmot will follow up with Laurie Fernandez regarding the ticket fine calculation, and Ms. Burns will follow up with Wendy Lionetti of the First Selectman's office regarding Ms. Dornfeld's annual reappointment. Ms. Dornfeld left the meeting.

3. Review and Discuss Benenson License Agreement: The proposed agreement for the Benenson (CVS) lot was read and discussed. A list of recommended changes and questions were prepared by members of the PA and noted by Ms. Wilmot, who will meet with First

Selectman Marconi and Town Counsel David Grogins to review next week. She will report back at the next meeting.

4. Mapping for time limits and permit parking for town licensed parking lots. Ms. Lussier brought an updated map with changes that had been done by the engineering department. Additional corrections were made, and she will bring the map back to the Engineering department for additional changes.
5. Other Business: Ms. Burns had previously distributed a draft copy of a letter to be sent to the Ridgefield P&Z regarding parking regulation in the Central Business District (CBD).

R. Murphy made a motion to approve the letter as written, Ms. Wilmot seconded. Motion passed 4 – 0.

Ms. Wilmot reported that she had written & delivered a letter to the Ridgefield Masonic Temple requesting information regarding the parking spaces to the rear of the building, to determine ownership of those spaces and what is included in the lease to Coldwell Banker with respect to reserved parking.

Adjournment. **R. Murphy moved, and J. Wilmot seconded a motion to adjourn at 9:43 pm. Motion passed 4 – 0.**

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Burns