

Parking Authority Minutes for Thursday 12-08-16

Present: Christopher Fusaro, Richard Moccia, Jessica Wilmot Absent: Mark Seavy, Robert Murphy

Meeting called to order Thursday 12-08-16 @ 0830 Hrs by Chairman Fusaro.

-No old business items required discussion at this time.

-Meeting Dates for 2017 will be the second Thursday of each month @ -0830 hrs. – All present in favor of such schedule since evenings are difficult for regular attendees.

-October 2016 meeting minutes, motion to approve brought by Richard Moccia, seconded by Jessica Wilmot and Christopher Fusaro. Approved.

-Motion brought by Christopher Fusaro, seconded by Jessica Wilmot and Richard Moccia to unanimously approve the following parking policy, fees and fines for public events held in Town that effect the parking in Town patrolled parking that adjoins or is in the immediate proximity to such events being held in Town.

The following policy shall be forwarded to the BOS for their review and Town Council review prior to implementation:

PARKING AUTHORITY POLICY TO MANAGE PUBLIC PARKING DURING EVENTS

Whenever any person, business or organization conducts any event in any place that adjoins, abuts or is in an immediate proximity to any parking area under the control of the Town of Ridgefield, the following shall be required:

The person, business or organization shall contact the Town of Ridgefield at least One Week in advance of such event and provide in writing –the date, time, type of event, potential attendees including event workers, contact information for the responsible host of such event and any relevant information or additional information requested by the Town that may be applicable to such event.

The person, business or organization hosting such event must be in compliance with all legal requirements, proof of insurance, compliance with fire and safety codes regarding their respective event. The person, business or organization shall be financially responsible for reimbursing the Town of Ridgefield for the hiring of enforcement and security officers for parking and traffic safety management in the adjoining, abutting and proximity parking areas during such event.

The enforcement and security personnel and duration of their presence shall be determined by the Town of Ridgefield Parking Authority after review of the written event description

and consultation with police and fire officials. A minimum of One enforcement officer and One security officer shall be required for any event held in Town that may potentially attract One Hundred or less attendees.

Failure to abide by this policy may incur a minimum fine of \$50.00 for each occurrence in addition to mandatory full reimbursement for all personnel hired by the Town of Ridgefield to adequately provide public parking, safety and coverage for such event and allow nearby businesses and residents rights to freely conduct business and transit in the area of such event.

-Parking Permits

As of the date of this meeting the following information has been confirmed- Approximately 50% of all parking ticket appeals are issues of employee parking, while at the same time the all day free parking at the Governor Street Lot remains mostly vacant during business hours. The landlords currently can request as many permits for free as they wish and they can disburse them as they wish.

We currently have 3 Town Owned lots- Baily (approx 113 spaces) Town Hall (approx 24 spaces) Governor Street (61-81 spaces depending on equipment).

The Tax department reports that for 2016 there were 114 permits purchased in the lottery @ \$60 each for a 6 month period ending 12-31-16. The Lottery for the first 6 months of 2017 has been active and we will continue as in the past to honor this lottery for the first 6 months of 2017 as we discuss new permit possibilities to be employed for the second half of 2017.

The following suggestions were brought forward for consideration for permit parking changes:

Leave the existing permit system as it is and make no changes.

Eliminate the current system. Make 20% of the spaces in each lot permit parking only. Issue to landlord's permits in the amount of 20% of their respective owned spaces, such permits must be accounted for and registered with the Town and returned every 6 months for re-issue. There will be no permit lottery and no addition permits sold. Permit spaces will be on a first come first served basis and the 20% of permit spaces owned by the landlords shall be for the use of their own permits issued by the Town giving their employees exclusive use of their lot permit parking. Expand 3 hour spaces to 4 hours to allow for longer term employee and customer parking.

Eliminate permits entirely. Take all of the 3 hour spaces that are currently disbursed and mark them as 8 hour parking available for a fee. We could do the same type of ticket system as Branchville. If you park in an 8 hour space then enforcement officers could just issue a pay ticket for \$5 or another amount for 8 hours of parking. Many merchants and employees may benefit from this by having the freedom to park closer and longer for a lesser fee than a

permit and those just parking briefly and going in and out of a business may miss the enforcement agent all together and not have to pay at all. This could create a higher turnover and availability of closer long term parking for less than a \$60 permit and be used as a need based long term parking.

Issue landlords permits for 20% count of their respective lot spaces for the exclusive use of their tenants only. Mark 20% of each landlord lot as permit only parking. Increase the 3 hour parking in landlord lots to 4 hours to accommodate longer term customer parking and augment employee parking if they choose to park their giving employees an additional parking venue nearby with a 4 hour turnover.

-Motion to adjourn made by Christopher Fusaro, seconded by Richard Moccia and Jessica Wilmot @ approx.1000hrs

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher Fusaro
Chairman
Ridgefield Parking Authority,