



TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 23, 2019

6:00 P.M. – 7:30 P.M.

Lorraine H. Morton Civic Center

Room 2404, Evanston, IL 60201

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ald. Wynne, A. Añón, B. J. Miller, T. Dubin, B. Kaplan

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ald. Revelle, Ald. Fleming

STAFF PRESENT: Interim Parking Manager Mike Rivera, Chris Venatta, Dave Stoneback

PRESIDING MEMBER: Ald. Wynne

1. Call to Order / Declaration of Quorum

Chairman Ald. Wynne declared a quorum at 6:05 P.M.

2. Citizen Comments

None

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes of August 28, 2019

Item 1

Motion to approve amended minutes made by B. J. Miller and seconded by B. Kaplan. A vote was called and taken. Motion passed unanimously (5-0)

4. Amending Title 10, Chapter 11, "Motor Vehicle and Traffic" Pertaining to parking on Simpson St – Action

Interim Parking Manager Michael Rivera talked about how the number of businesses around the 1700 block of Simpson. Due to this the Parking Division has been looking at the parking situation in this area. Staff is suggesting that some short term parking be added to the area to complement the existing 2 hour parking that is already allowed.

Item 2

Motion to approve staff recommendations made by B.J. Miller and seconded by T. Dubin

A vote was called and taken. Motion passed unanimously (5-0)

5. Handicap Parking- Action

Interim Parking Manager Michael Rivera talked the current state regulations where in 2016 the State of Illinois created a new subsection of handicap placard (Gold and Grey Placard). Only those who applied and qualified for this new placard were then exempt from paying for paid parking areas throughout the state. Anyone with a different placard would not be automatically exempt.

While the gold and grey placards are now exempt, municipalities have to ability to determine if they are going to require the other types of placards to pay for parking or not.

This was not initially addressed because when the city had single space meters, designated handicap spaces did not have meters installed at those spaces. When the city started implementing pay stations, these previously unmetered spaces now became “regular” spaces on the block and could be charged for parking. So staff is looking for a recommendation from the committee as to whether the City wants to follow the State regulations or to exempt all disabled placards, or something in between.

A. Añón stated that everyone should be held to the same standards for parking and there are better ways to help disabled citizens like improving/increasing public transportation options.

A couple committee members (B. Kaplan and M. Wynne) raised concerns about how this would be view by residents and wanted staff to gather more information about the quantities of each of the types of placards issued here in Evanston.

Item 3

Held for a future meeting – No motion made

6. Amending Title 10, Chapter 11, Section 18, Schedule XVIII (G) “Residential P Exemption Parking District 7 - Action

Interim Parking Manager Michael Rivera spoke about this being an item requested by Alderman Revelle. The Parking Division was informed about concerns from residents on the 2200 block of Lincoln. Currently, parking is allowed on both sides of the block, often leaving the road too narrow for two lanes of traffic. By eliminating non-resident parking during those two hours, the road should see a decrease in the number of people who park for the duration of the work day, which would clear the road for traffic. Many of the surrounding streets are already part of Residential Parking District 7.

B.J. Miller spoke about how she frequents this area and she doesn't see how the parking here is an issue. She spoke about how most of the houses in the area have access to their own off street parking already and that if the concern is that the street is too narrow when vehicles are

parked on both sides, then making the south side of the street a no parking zone could fix the problem.

Alderman Wynne talked about how this an issue of commuters parking in the area.

B. Kaplan asked if there was a standard as to how far out parking restriction extend from a train station.

Alderman Wynne suggested tabling this item until Alderman Revelle could be present to discuss the issues in the area.

Item 4

Motion to table this item made by B.J. Miller and seconded by T. Dubin A vote was called and taken. Motion passed unanimously (5-0)

7. 128-O-19, Amending Title 10, Chapter 4, Section 5, Schedule 2 “Parking in Predominantly Residential Areas” – Action

This item went to council and was sent back to the Transportation and Parking Committee

Alderman Wynne asked that this item be tabled until she had a chance to talk to local businesses.

Item 5

Motion to table item made by Ald. Wynne and seconded by B.J. Miler. A vote was called and taken. Motion passed (5-0)

8. Draft Stormwater Management Guide

Public Works Agency Director Dave Stoneback made a presentation talking about how public works is defining the goals and approaches for managing the City’s current and future stormwater needs.

Director Stoneback talked about how this issue dates back to 1987 where a large storm caused an unprecedented amount of basement flooding in Evanston. After the City made a large investment over 22 years in infrastructure, basement backups are largely not a current issue anymore.

Today the current climate is changing and we face different types of weather effects (stronger, more intense, shorter rainfalls). With climate change these changes are expected to continue. Public Works is looking at a number of goals including:

- a) Develop an acceptable level of protection for stormwater flooding
- b) Mitigate stormwater-related safety issues and property damage under current and future conditions
- c) Work towards achieving the goals outlined in the City of Evanston's Climate Action and Resilience Plan (CARP)
- d) Develop an equitable approach to stormwater management
- e) Be a leader in stormwater management best practices
- f) Maintain compliance with stormwater regulations
- g) Establish a sustainable funding stream for implementation of the plan

The committee asked some questions about the scope of the study and using a green infrastructure plan.

Director Stoneback talked stated that the study would take 2 years. He also talked about the soil in some areas of the city is not capable of absorbing water quickly enough.

The city is looking at different ways of funding this project, including adding a Stormwater Utility Fee.

B. Kaplan suggested a Stormwater Utility Credit for homeowners who adopt some changes themselves.

Director Stoneback said that nothing is off the table and all will be considered as part of the study

B.J. Miller talked about public engagement and reaching out sooner and getting feedback from residents early and often.

10. Adjournment

A Motion to adjourn was made by B.J. Miller and 2nd by Ald. Wynne at 7:10 P.M. A vote was called and then taken. Motion passed unanimously (5-0).

The next Committee Meeting is November 20, 2019.