

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, HEALTH & TRAFFIC

March 4, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Chairman Vincent called the meeting to order.

The Clerk called the roll.

Present: Aldermen Vincent, Morgan, Kantor, Barry

Absent: Alderman Goonan

Messrs.: C. Goodnow

1. The Traffic Division has submitted an agenda which needs to be addressed:

NO PARKING ANYTIME

On Brooklyn Avenue, both sides, from Cypress Street to Jewett Street

Alderman Terrio

On Belair Street, south side, from a point 300 feet west of Brown Ave to a point 100 feet further west

Alderman Burkush

On Old Granite Street, from a point 53 feet west of Franklin Street to a point 62 feet further west

Alderman Long

NO PARKING ANYTIME 8AM-6PM

On Cheney Place, north side, from Elm Street to a point 269 feet west

Alderman Long

RESCIND 1 HOUR PARKING

On Laurel Street, north side, from Union Street to a point 110 feet east of Union Street (ORD 3216)

On Laurel Street, north side, from a point 150 feet east of Union Street to Beech Street (ORD 3218)

Alderman Sapienza

RESCIND 1 HOUR PARKING 8AM-6PM

On Laurel Street, north side, from a point 110 feet east of Union Street to a point 40 feet easterly (ORD 7167)

Alderman Sapienza

*On motion of **Alderman Barry**, duly seconded by **Alderman Morgan**, it was voted to approve.*

2. Communication from Chris Goodnow, Parking Manager, regarding a request from Stark Brewing to use a portion of Arms Lot that consists of nineteen (19) parking spaces for outdoor seating.

Alderman Kantor stated I spoke to Peter and Lucy and they want to be able to still park during the day there. How do we enforce that? Is that a city thing? Peter did say he was going to work with Lucy but I wanted to clarify things.

Chris Goodnow, Parking Manager, asked what was the question.

Alderman Kantor stated if this is approved, they want to still use the parking lot during the day but if the cars don't move is that a city thing where we would have them towed. Can we put signs up?

Mr. Goodnow replied there would be an expense for signs and an expense for somebody to be down there to enforce it. If you want to tow vehicles out of there for enforcement purposes so it can be utilized for events, I guess that would be up to you folks but there would be a cost for that too.

Alderman Kantor responded I am just trying to find a happy medium.

Alderman Barry stated I also talked to Peter and my understanding is it would only be for the day time when Lucy's staff or people in the building can park there. Is that your understanding?

Mr. Goodnow answered there is no designated area so anybody can park there. To manage that would be a cost. We would have to have manpower down there. To tow a car because somebody didn't move...I think we all have had that experience over the winter and how sensitive the issue of towing vehicles is.

Alderman Barry stated I am with you and I am not going to waste our resources to have the parking police go down there and enforce it if someone is down there say ½ hour after whatever the time limit is. You would hope that people working in that building would comply. I guess I could make a motion to approve this tonight with the understanding that Peter and Lucy get together and we can come back. Maybe we can table?

Chairman Vincent stated I thought the window was tight to table.

Alderman Morgan stated I think he has to have a decision because he has bands that need to be booked as soon as possible. I think he would prefer to have the decision tonight.

Alderman Barry stated I am not in favor of having the city continuously go down there to tow cars. Obviously if it is a nuisance and people are parking overnight in spots where they shouldn't be parking...the signage is good. If we get complaints about certain vehicles that are parked there we can regroup or you can bring it to our attention and let us know what is going on and if we have to change it, we can change it.

Mr. Goodnow asked are you requesting temporary signage on movable barricades.

Chairman Vincent answered I think if we start going down that road the city is starting to put out money and that is what I don't want. I want this to be something amicable between the parties involved. That is my understanding. I know our timeline is tight on this. My understanding is it is starting on April 15. If we approve this tonight, it just approves it but if we don't push it up to the Board and allow the parties to come before us at the next meeting...maybe we can pull it off consent.

Alderman Kantor asked can we approve it where they put their own signage out; their A-frame signs that say parking allowed during the day until 5 PM.

Mr. Goodnow responded it would have to be approved by the Board for them to do that but it wouldn't be enforced. I suspect that it is just the folks that are in that building that park there but it is not designated so we could have a straggler.

Alderman Morgan asked how different is this year than previous years.

Mr. Goodnow answered they used jersey barriers before so you couldn't park in there during the day.

Alderman Morgan asked who put the barriers down.

Mr. Goodnow replied the city did.

Alderman Morgan asked and they are not there anymore.

Mr. Goodnow answered they are there but not pulled in front of the parking lot. The parking lot is kind of split. There is a driveway and to the left they would put barricades there for the summer and fall so nobody could park there during this request period. I think that is what we are trying to avoid because we have folks who park there all year long and pay for permits. I think the solution was to have no parking there just after 5 PM or whatever time was determined. The problem is managing it.

Alderman Morgan asked would it probably be okay.

Mr. Goodnow responded probably but what if it isn't. I guess that was my question to you folks. How would you like to handle it if it is not?

Alderman Morgan asked has there been a problem in previous years.

Mr. Goodnow replied there hasn't been a problem because it has been barricaded with jersey barriers. I wouldn't know if someone parks there that is not part of that building. The yellow zone is all encompassing. There is no time slot permit at this time. Anybody that has a yellow permit can park in that area if there is a spot open. Do I know who parks there? I don't.

Alderman Morgan stated it sounds to me like we are really just talking about that one issue and if we can have Peter and Lucy get together and figure that out we can approve it tonight.

Matthew Normand, City Clerk, stated there is also a charge and that is the other issue that is being debated.

Alderman Barry stated the way I am looking at it, there is one jersey barrier. How many parking spots are there?

Mr. Goodnow answered 19.

Alderman Barry asked and do we have permits for all 19 spaces.

Mr. Goodnow replied yes. The yellow zone encompasses Arms Lot, Arms Extension Lot and a lot of Arms Street. That whole area is the yellow zone so anybody with a yellow permit can park in that Arms Street Extension. Is it mostly folks that work in that building? My guess is yes but there is no way to separate that right now. If somebody straggles in there and they are there after the timeframe, that is what my question is. Do we manage it or not manage it? It is tough. We do it on Fridays for Parks & Recreation where they put up barricades for no parking on Friday in the other section. Could you put something like that in that area sign wise? Of course but if somebody violates it, I don't know how far we want to take it.

Alderman Barry stated if they were designated I would not have a problem but they are not designated.

Chairman Vincent asked do I have a motion.

Alderman Morgan moved to approve. **Alderman Barry** duly seconded with the understanding that Peter and Lucy work something out.

City Clerk Normand asked is there a cost associated with this. In the past they have paid \$1,260. The Parking Manager is stating that it is \$7,315 for those 19 spaces. The committee needs to give him direction on what to charge.

Chairman Vincent stated my understanding is whatever he is willing to pay is what we are doing.

City Clerk Normand asked so the city cost.

Chairman Vincent responded not the \$7,000.

City Clerk Normand asked so the \$1,260.

Chairman Vincent asked is that the committee's understanding. Okay, I will call for a vote. There being none opposed, the motion carried.

*There being no further business, on motion of **Alderman Morgan**, duly seconded by **Alderman Kantor**, it was voted to adjourn.*

A True Record. Attest.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew Normand". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Clerk of Committee