

City of Salem, Massachusetts



“Know Your Rights Under the Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c. 39 §23B, and City Ordinance Sections 2-2028 through 2-2033.”

The City Council Committee ~~of~~ of the Whole _____

met in the Council Chamber on Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at 6:30 P.M.

for the purpose of discussing the matter(s) listed below. Notice of this meeting was posted on

March 31, 2011 at 5:57 P.M.

(This meeting is being recorded.)

ATTENDANCE

ABSENT WERE: Councillor Renan arrived @ 6:35 PM

SUBJECT(S)

#182 - Comprehensive Parking Plan REcommendation

#183 - Ordinances amending Traffic Ordinances

Councillor Ryan presiding

FOR NOTES - SEE ATTACHED

The City Council Committee of the Whole met in the Council Chamber on Wednesday, April 6, 2011 at 6:30PM for the purpose of discussing the matter(s) listed below. Notice of this meeting was posted on March 31, 2011 at 5:57PM.

No Councillors were absent.

Also present were Tom Daniels & Lynne Duncan from the Planning Department as well as members of the Parking Study Working Group.

Council Order #182 Comprehensive Parking Plan Recommendation

Tom Daniels started off the meeting by introducing the members of the Working Group.

Working Group members Dave MCKillop and Pam Broderick discussed the study.

Tom Daniels made the Power Point presentation "Recommendations for Changes to Salem's Parking System" (see enclosed handout).

Councillor Pinto asked about revenue and Tom Daniels explained that the City will net \$60,000 after including debt service on the new equipment that would need to be purchased. Tom Daniels also said that the parking enforcement would be 7 days a week from 8:00am to 8:00pm.

Councillor McCarthy thanked the Parking Study Group and asked about the different rates.

Councillor Lovely asked about the time limits and how the group came to the four hour time limit. Ralph from Nelson/Nygaard answered question, industry standard.

Councillor Prevey talked about the \$60,000 revenue surplus and how they were going to implement the smart meters. He also asked about the \$30 parking violation. Tom Daniels answered that the first violation would be no money and then the subsequent violation would be \$30. This would be done as a deterrent.

Councillor Sosnowski thinks that the group should have had Washington Streets utilization/demand at a higher amount. **He said he didn't see** the tour bus stops listed on the map.

Councillor O'Keefe thanked Tom Daniels for his work. He suggested moving the tour bus stops and Lynn Duncan put his suggestion in a "parking lot" to follow up.

Councillor Ronan doesn't like the reports recommendation that the City form a Parking Commission. He also stated that the cost to implement the parking plan is \$850,000 and the City will make \$60,000/year. It will take 14 years to recoup the investment. Tom Daniels responded that the \$60,000/year includes the debt service.

Councillor Furey supports the Parking Plan.

Councillor Pellitier talked about downtown residential parking and that the Parking Group should work with Bonnie Celi in the Collectors Office.

Councillor McCarthy asked the Parking Group to get the Councillor the lists of towns where the proposed smart meters are already installed.

Councillor O'Keefe asked about the words "Draft Recommendation" on Tom Daniels presentation. Tom Daniels fixed the error.

Questions were then taken from members of the audience.

Ryan & Casey Chevers of Latitude Condos, 281 Essex Street talked about how they have to pay \$500/year for a parking pass and they are not guaranteed a parking space. They also said they excluded from Resident Sticker Parking on Crombie Street because their address is on Essex Street.

Shirley Walker of Derby Lofts, 51 Lafayette Street read her letter – see attached.

Lynn Skudlark of 15 Lynde Street said there should be a balance between the residence parking and business parking.

Tabatha Cardi of 15 Lynde Street spoke of the trouble she has parking and that she has 2 kids. One of her kids is autistic and he has issues when they have to park far away from the home.

Barry Neely of 15 Lynde Street explained how the people with resident stickers also get visitor passes and he wanted to make sure the study included this. He talked about how he has down his own parking study and that the garages top floors are empty.

Nate Gravel of 24 Norman Street wanted to know who decides the parking rates.

Council discussed what to do next with the Parking Study

Councillor Pinto wants to move the plan along.

Councillor Sosnowski wants to implement on a trial basis.

Councillor O'Keefe wants to form a subcommittee but Councillor Lovely stated we would just be duplicating what was just done.

Councillor McCarthy thinks that there are some kinks that need to be worked out before he can vote on the parking study.

Councillor Sosnowski wants the Residence Sticker Program looked at before we vote on this parking study.

Councillor Ronan doesn't want to delay the plan.

Councillor Pellitier wants to move to Ordinance, Licenses and Legal Affairs but Councillor Lovely thinks we should keep in the Committee of the Whole until we hear back from the Planning Department.

Councillor Sargent asked about Parking Passes and if they could be used at meters. Tom Daniels will look into this and get back to the Council.

Councillor Prevey asked about marketing of the new parking program. Tom Daniels explained how they will work with downtown businesses.

Councillor Sosnowski motioned to keep Council Orders #182 & #183 in Committee until we hear back from the Planning Department.

Councillor Pellitier seconded the motion.

All councilors voted in favor of keeping the Orders in Committee until it hears back from the Planning Department before April 28th.

Councillor O'Keefe moved for adjournment, so voted at 9:30PM.