

**PARKING COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**9:00 AM –Thursday, December 8, 2005**  
**City Hall – Conference Room A**

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

Chairman John Hynes called the meeting to order at approximately 9:20 a.m. and turned the meeting over to Steve Parkinson.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:** Councilor John Hynes, Chairman  
John P. Bohenko, City Manager  
Steve Parkinson, Public Works Director  
Deputy Police Chief Dave Young  
Andrew Purgiel

**III. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:**

**MOTION** made by Deputy Police Chief Dave Young to accept the minutes of the November 10, 2005 meeting. Seconded by Andrew Purgiel. Motion passed.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS:**

(A) **Review of Parking Study Technical Report #3** – report back – Steve Parkinson suggested waiting until the new City Council comes into being in January to put together a report to them on the three studies on parking issues, parking garage and meter operations and neighborhood type parking. Chairman Hynes agreed.

**MOTION** made by Andrew Purgiel to table this until the January meeting, review the 3 studies and come back with recommendation as to what we should include in the report to the Council for their evaluation. Seconded by Deputy Police Chief Dave Young. Motion passed.

Proceeded to New Business, Item A.

**V. NEW BUSINESS:**

(A) **Middle Street** – Snow Emergency Off Street Parking – (November 18, 2005 resident letter attached) - Sue Polidura was present and expressed the two issues in her letter. Ms. Polidura stated historically residents have been able to park at the Masonic Temple parking facilities. Recently found out that parking is no longer allowed there in the evening, only during business hours. To buy the right to park there is \$150/month, leaving them without options for off-street snow emergency parking.

Suggested some kind of mechanism for residents to park in the High Hanover garage at a reduced rate. For a win-win situation thought it would be advisable to consider having a voucher for residents to park in the garage during snow emergencies at a discounted rate.

Steve Parkinson addressed the issue of the Masonic Temple. The agreement between the City and the Temple is basically daytime hours until 7:00 p.m. when it is not open to the public. Within the last few years there have not been any issues and the Masonic Temple has allowed parking there during snowstorms. This became problematic to them as a lot of people did not move their cars after the storm and there were a number of cars left there for long periods of time. Our agreement with them expires December 2006, and not sure what will happen then. We don't have the exclusive right to use it. They have the right to exclude vehicles there in the nighttime hours. Steve Parkinson will speak with the City Manager who is aware of the situation. The parking garage discounted rates is a policy decision.

Deputy Police Chief Dave Young asked Andrew if the occupancy rates have decreased in the garage. Andrew answered it is being used more this year which was the first year of the rate increase. We have seen an increase of both the hourly users and pass users. Andrew informed Ms. Polidura there is a monthly nighttime pass of \$50.00.

Steve Parkinson informed Ms. Polidura of the \$80.00/mo. daytime pass which is from 7:00a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and there is also a 24-hour pass for \$100/mo.

City Manager agreed with the discounted rate at the garage when an emergency is declared and suggested speaking with the City Attorney and perhaps doing it on a pilot basis. So that when a snow emergency is declared a City resident is able to park in the garage at a discounted rate. This needs to be thought out, as there are internal controls to be considered. Andrew stated that they would probably need to have the car out by 7:00 a.m. as there are many pass users. In a snow emergency they could park in the garage at night but need to remove by 7:00 a.m.

City Manager stated there would be some form of identification. There are ramifications and we need to look at all things and discuss internally and if necessary, call a special meeting of this Committee for a vote. We need to find something that is easy to administer for the resident and the attendant. A flat fee was discussed as well as a voucher through the City Clerk's office.

**MOTION** made by City Manager to have City staff authorized to create some kind of voucher system that would allow residents to park for snow emergencies only at a proposed reduced rate and come back to the Parking

Committee with a recommended system that would allow residents to park  
Seconded by Andrew Purgiel. Motion passed.

City Manager stated something will be put together trying to keep it simple  
and if necessary, call a special meeting and check with the Legal  
Department.

Ms. Polidura asked what other options there were on this side of town as  
we are having snow tonight.

City Manager suggested Parrott Ave., Bridge St., South Playground lot as  
well as Leary Field at Rockland St. Rockland Street would actually be  
closer to her residence. City Manager told Mrs. Polidura we understand  
your issue and will work to resolve it making it universal to all residents.

Ms. Polidura thanked the Committee for their time and City Manger  
thanked her for bringing it to their attention.

**IV. OLD BUSINESS:**

**(B) Municipal Parking Lots** - Length of vehicles – report back – Steve stated  
that he is working with the Legal Department.

**(C) Hanover Street** – The Juicery/Mainely Gourmet Chocolate – Request for  
15-minute parking space – report back – Steve Parkinson stated that  
additional 15 minute meters had to be ordered and have not yet received  
them and when we do they will be put in place as a pilot program under  
the Omnibus for next year.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT:** Adjourned at approx. 9:35am.

Respectfully submitted

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Elaine E. Boucas, Secretary