

PARKING COMMITTEE MEETING
9:00 AM –Thursday, May 11, 2006
City Hall – Conference Room A

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Ken Smith called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Councilor Ken Smith, Chairman
John P. Bohenko, City Manager
Steve Parkinson, Public Works Director
Deputy Police Len DiSesa
Andrew Purgiel

III. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:

MOTION made by Steve Parkinson to accept the minutes of April 13, 2006 meeting. Seconded by Andrew Purgiel. Motion passed.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

(A) **Hanover Street – Bus Stop** – Temporary situation for Vermont Transit while new facility is being built - Report from Steve Parkinson – Steve Parkinson informed the Committee that he received a telephone call from Vermont Transit at the end of April that their vendor was no longer selling their tickets. They were aware they would be moved out of the Square to the new transit facility at the Hanover Garage within the next year. They found a new vendor, Mainely Gourmet, across the street from the entrance to the parking garage who is now selling tickets for them. We moved Vermont Transit on a temporary basis. They have five trips a day, three southbound and two northbound, it is not every hour and is not a layover situation, they come in drop people off, pick people up.

City Manager stated the Police Department is aware of this and Deputy Chief Len DiSesa stated it has not been an issue.

(B) **Forgiveness Ticket Program** – Preliminary discussion – City Manager referred to Andrew Purgiel having put together statistics. The City Manager suggested having a special meeting inviting the downtown business owners. The City Manager wants to review the figures of forgiveness tickets as the City will be decreasing revenue. One of the complaints he has been receiving is that the 7:00 p.m. ticketing has been a real issue. City Manager suggested a six-month pilot program, January 1, 2007 to June 30, 2007 and then evaluate the situation.

As this is in the middle of the budget, it was decided to further discuss this in July.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

(A) **Parking Garage** – Request for Group Licenses – Report from Andrew Purgiel. The City Manager referred to the information that Andrew prepared and handed to the Committee members. The City Manager referred to the leases at the High Hanover Parking Facility. There are 915 spaces in the garage and in 2005 there were 529 leases and in 2006, 588. The City Manager stated that 650 is probably the maximum number of passes for the garage.

Andrew Purgiel referred to the graphs showing non-lease holders paying by the hour are steady throughout the day with more leaseholders around dinner time. Leaseholders come in the morning and leave by dinner time. The transients double from weekly usage on the weekend. Passholders drop tremendously during weekends. The next graph showed the days during the calendar years 2004 and 2005 when the garage was full, the times garage was closed and times reopened showing 9 hours 48 minutes total closure in 2004 and 21 hours 23 minutes in 2005, including Special Event Parking.

City Manager stated the key is tracking.

Andrew Purgiel reported that for the 3 snow parking bans 79 residents signed up for coupons. They expire this year and will re-issue next year.

Andrew Purgiel then referred to revenue projections for 2006 and actual revenue for 2004 and 2005.

VI. ADJOURNMENT: Adjourned at approx. 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Elaine E. Boucas, Secretary