

**MINUTES OF THE
PARKING GARAGE SITE SELECTION COMMITTEE**

September 6, 2012

Conference Room A

7:30 a.m.

Members Present: Councilor Anthony Coviello, Councilor Christine M. Dwyer, Councilor Nancy Novelline-Clayburgh, John P. Bohenko, Steve Parkinson, Nancy Carmer, Nick Cracknell, Adam Cannon

Chairman Coviello called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m. and briefly discussed the agenda. The purpose of this meeting was to examine the potential advantages and disadvantages of various potential parking garage sites.

As the first order of business, Councilors unanimously approved the meeting minutes from the August 22, 2012 meeting.

Next, Councilors accepted the following written communications from the public:

Petition Submitted by Blair McCracken of 212 Pleasant Street
Letter from Roy W. Heisel of 777 Middle Road, Unit 22
Letter from Carl R. Nold, President and CEO of Historic New England
E-mail from Peter McDonough of 314 McKinley Road

As the next order of business, Principal Planner Nick Cracknell gave a presentation on detailed renderings of seven different sites in the city including:

- 1) Bridge Street Municipal Lot
- 2) Worth Municipal Lot
- 3) Deer Street Lot (privately owned)
- 4) Parrott Avenue Municipal Lot
- 5) McIntyre Lot (federally owned)
- 6) The surface lot adjacent to and behind Fire Station 1 on Court Street
- 7) The Masonic Lot

City Manager Bohenko stated that it was important to view these sites conceptually and take into consideration the fact that many of these sites would require acquisition or collaboration and significant discussions with private owners prior to moving forward.

Councilors then put forward the following ten criteria on which to evaluate each site:

- Economic Benefits to Size & its Relationship to Abutting Properties
- Aesthetic Impacts/Screening Opportunities
- Cost of Construction
- Traffic/Circulation & Access
- Relationship with Other Existing & Potential Garage Sites for the Future
- Efficiency of Layout
- Net New Parking Spaces
- Proximity to Central Business District
- Walkable, Multi-modal Facility for Buses & Bikes
- Level of Complexity & Acquisition Issues

City Manager Bohenko directed City staff to develop a score sheet taking into account each of these criteria. Councilors then had no other business to discuss and set the next meeting date on Monday, September 17, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

Following this business, two members of the public came forward to speak in the public comment session.

Blair McCracken of 212 Pleasant Street discussed the submitted petition against using the lot between Parrott Avenue and Pleasant Street. There are currently 117 signatures on the petition. He noted that there are now over 180 signatures with more anticipated. Mr. McCracken also said it was important to consider the factor of child safety with Portsmouth Middle School and Little Harbor School nearby.

Frank Cilluffo of 179 Pleasant Street asked if there were any stipulations against using the lot near St. John's Church. City Manager Bohenko noted that those stipulations were cleared with St. John's Church out of New York City.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Adam Cannon
Assistant Project Manager