

FEE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Municipal Complex, Conference Room A
Portsmouth NH

February 15, 2024, 2:00 p.m.

Present:

Fee Committee: Councilors John Tabor, Josh Denton, and Beth Moreau

Others: City Manager Karen Conard
Deputy Finance Director Andrew Purgiel
Deputy Health Officer Kristin Shaw
City Clerk Kelli Barnaby
Planning and Sustainability Director Peter Britz
Director of Public Works Peter Rice
Deputy Director of Public Works Brian Goetz
Parking Director Ben Fletcher
Senior Assistant City Attorney Jane Ferrini
Recreation Director Todd Henley

A motion was made by Councilor Denton and seconded by Councilor Tabor to approve the minutes from the March 6, 2023, meeting. Unanimously approved.

A motion was made by Councilor Tabor to move Public Comment to the beginning of the meeting. Unanimously approved.

Massimo Morgia, owner of Ristorante Massimo, gave a brief presentation regarding the restaurant industry and how much it costs him to use the outdoor dining space. He said he would not like to see the fees increased for outdoor dining. He further stated it is not profitable for the restaurants to pay those fees. He stated that there would still be plenty of parking for visitors as the parking garage is not full.

A motion was made by Councilor Denton and seconded by Councilor Moreau to suspend the rules and start the discussion about the outdoor dining spaces. Unanimously approved.

Planning: Peter Britz gave a brief presentation regarding the projected fee increases for outdoor dining. Councilor Denton made a motion seconded by Councilor Cook to set the fee at \$5 per sq ft (as measured by the City) for the parking space, sidewalk, and loading zones with a \$750 minimum fee (no inclusion in the reduction of fees for composting). Unanimously approved.

City Clerk: Kelli Barnaby gave a brief presentation of the changes to the projected fees. Unanimously approved.

Recreation: Todd Henley gave a brief presentation of the changes to the projected fees. Unanimously approved.

Health: Karen Conard gave a brief presentation of the changes to the projected fees. Unanimously approved.

Public Works: Peter Rice gave a brief presentation regarding the projected fees. Unanimously approved.

Parking & Transportation: Ben Fletcher gave a brief presentation regarding recommendations for fee increases. He also suggested a fee change (not on the list) for the Foundry Garage, to change Sunday Resident Fee from free to \$5. The Committee suggested that that increase be addressed next year. Unanimously approved.

Water and Sewer: Brian Goetz gave a brief presentation regarding recommendations for fee increases. Unanimously approved.

Planning: Peter Britz gave a brief presentation regarding recommendations for fee increases. Unanimously approved.

Opened to Public Hearing and comments:

Petra Huda, 280 South Street, asked for clarification on the motion for outdoor dining and thanked the committee for not changing the fee for the Foundry Garage Sunday parking.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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