

PARKING COMMITTEE MEETING
10:00 AM –Thursday, April 12, 2007
City Hall – Conference Room A

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Ken Smith called the meeting to order at approximately 10:00 a.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Councilor Ken Smith, Chair
John Bohenko, City Manager
Deputy Police Chief Len DiSesa
Jon Frederick, Parking Manager
Andrew Purgiel, City Auditor

III. ACCEPTANCE OF THE MINUTES:

MOTION made by Jon Frederick to accept the minutes of the March 8, 2007 meeting. Seconded by Andrew Purgiel. Motion passed.

IV. NEW BUSINESS:

(A) **Islington Creek Neighborhood – Brewster Street** – Parking Issues (letter dated March 14, 2007 attached – Jon Frederick explained this is the same letter addressed to the Traffic & Safety Committee and Page 2 requested enforcement for resident parking only. The area currently is open to first-come first-serve parking, not an enforced area.

The Chair would like this Committee to start a study into a residential parking solution. The subject letter will be taken up at the May 10th Traffic & Safety meeting

The City Manager stated we need to look at a City-wide policy. Residential parking should be for residents of the City, not just residents of the neighborhood. Any resident may obtain a sticker from the Parking Division at \$100 per year.

The Chair asked Jon Frederick to look into what other cities have done. Jon Frederick stated the Consultant’s Report had a detailed schematic of how to institute residential parking.

Deputy Chief DiSesa has data on the accidents at the intersection and will present it at the May 10th Traffic & Safety meeting.

MOTION made Andrew Purgiel to place on file. Seconded by Jon Frederick. Motion passed.

(B) **110 Fleet Street – Farah’s Bridal** – Request for a “No Parking” Zone – Traffic & Safety Committee referral – “No Parking” signage.
This requires an Ordinance change after Parking Committee approval.

Jon Frederick stated this is a follow up on a request from the Traffic & Safety Committee. The area in front of the Bridal shop on the westerly side of Fleet St. from Congress St. up approx. 135 ft, has been treated as an unofficial loading zone and is signed as a “No Parking” area. Jon Frederick presented pictures of the area. Traffic & Safety looked at it and referred back to Parking Committee with their recommendation it be enforced as a “No Parking” area, not as an unofficial loading zone. The Ordinance does not dictate this area as a “no parking” zone, it is signed as such, but the ordinance does not reflect it.

The enforcement will be changed with a two week grace period with warning tickets prior to actual enforcement. There is a loading zone around the corner on Congress St. The No Parking section in the Ordinance needs to be changed, subparagraph C, Fleet Street, the westerly side from Congress St. to a point 135 ft in northerly direction be designated as a “No Parking” zone.

MOTION made by Jon Frederick to start enforcement of the “No Parking Zone” on the westerly side of Fleet St. from Congress St. up approx. 135 ft. in a northerly direction with a two week grace period with warning tickets. That the Ordinance, Subparagraph C, reflect this change. Seconded by Andrew Purgiel. Motion passed.

- (C) **Old Portsmouth Herald Building** – Removal of Parking Meters – Jon Frederick explained that the Portsmouth Herald Building is no longer being utilized and the 10 metered spaces are not being used. The City Manager suggested leaving the metered spaces as they are. **MOTION** made by Deputy Police Chief DiSesa to leave the metered spaces as they are. Seconded by Andrew Purgiel. Motion passed.

V. OLD BUSINESS:

- (A) **557 State Street** - Request for parking space lined on street – Letter dated March 8, 2007 from Police Department advising of this Committee’s action – Deputy Police Chief DiSesa wrote letter to Mr. & Mrs. Schultz, and has not heard from them.
- (B) **Consultant’s report follow up:**
 - Hanover Street Across from Garage** – Initiate No Parking Friday and Saturday evenings between 6:00 pm and 10 pm. Jon Frederick referred to the Report’s recommendation to eliminate parking across from the entrance on Hanover Street to facilitate traffic flow during periods of high traffic into the Garage. Elimination of parking on Friday and Saturday nights from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. Jon’s thought was making it 6:00 p.m. as there would still be enforcement present. Jon Frederick spoke to the establishments which are closed

by 6:00 p.m. and they are in favor of this. Jon Frederick suggested “No Parking from Fri. and Sat. 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.” signage. The City Manager stated that this was an operational issue and suggested bagging the meters during the summer months for three months and report back in September.

VI. ADJOURNMENT: Adjourned at approximately 10: 20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted
Elaine E. Boucas, Secretary