



CITY OF DOVER

DOVER PARKING COMMISSION - MINUTES

Meeting Type: Regular Meeting
Meeting Location: City Hall Second Floor Conference Room
288 Central Avenue, Dover, NH 03820
Meeting Date: **Tuesday, May 18, 2010**
Meeting Time: 8:30 am

Members Present: Charles Reynolds (Chair), Jack Buckley, George Maglaras, Anthony McManus, Carrie Keech.

Others Present: J. Michael Joyal, Jr. (City Manager), Dan Barufaldi (Economic Development Director), Doug Steele (Community Services Director), Anthony Colarusso (Chief of Police), Marn Speidel, William Simons (Police), Jeffrey Harrington (resident)

Members Not Present: Otis Perry

Chairman Reynolds called the meeting to order at 8:30 am.

Review and Approval of April 16, 2010 Minutes

McManus moved to approve the April 16, 2010 minutes, seconded by Buckley. No amendments to draft. Motion passed 5-0.

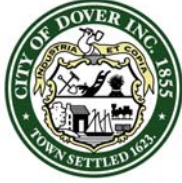
Discussion on winter parking ordinance

Chief Colarusso gave an overview of the current ordinance. Steele stated that his staff has been after him for years to have the ordinance amended to implement a storm emergency ban. Reynolds asked whether the police chief and community services director had come up with a plan on how to handle an alternative. Steele stated that several issues had been discussed and that some issues still needed to be worked out. Steele stated that one example is that his staff would prefer a call for an earlier imposed ban in the downtown area; 1:00 am is too late in many cases to allow for effective snow removal from the sidewalks, etc. Steele stated that the Rochester Chamber of Commerce notifies businesses the day before an emergency declaration, and that the Greater Dover Chamber of Commerce would be a good resource. Colarusso spoke about the potential drawbacks of a downtown parking ban during daytime or evening hours and the effect on local merchants such as bars and restaurants. Reynolds asked whether a specific ordinance had been drafted and proposed. Speidel stated that the ordinance language for storm emergency declarations was already in place in one section of the ordinance. The only thing that remains is to repeal or amend the section dealing with the 1:00 am to 6:00 am blanket ban. Speidel stated that the primary thing to be addressed was logistical issues of public notification. Maglaras stated that there should be signs posted around the City, and referred to similar signs in Somersworth that were typically flipped whenever there was an emergency parking ban declared. McManus moved to support the elimination of the blanket winter parking ban. Buckley suggested that staff work out the logistical details and return to the Commission at a future date. Reynolds asked for informal agreement of the members of a recommendation for City staff to work together on a draft ordinance revision and associated logistical details and return to the Commission with it. All were in favor. Item was tabled to a future date.

Doug Steele departed the meeting.

Request for loading zone at 288 Central Avenue

Speidel stated that staff had received a request for designation of a loading zone in an on-street parking area directly across from City Hall, to serve a prospective tenant at the former Chamber of Commerce building on property owned by Foster's Daily Democrat. Speidel explained that loading zones were, by ordinance, designated by the Chief of Police but in this instance, given the location, a recommendation from the Commission would be sought. Speidel stated that he had asked for a formal letter from the requesting party but that staff had not



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received the formal request as yet. Reynolds suggested that the matter be tabled with no action pending further correspondence from the requesting party. All were in agreement.

Reynolds asked Speidel for an update on multi-space parking meter program implementation. Speidel gave an overview of parking management transition. Buckley asked whether the recent resolution for amending the permit fee schedule had been passed by the City Council. Speidel explained that it had passed.

Maglaras addressed a question to City Manager Joyal about the timing of the next phase of meter implementation. Discussion ensued on the topic of bonding. Reynolds stated that he had a concern about lost revenue for every month that goes by without meters in place.

McManus asked when the parking permit rates would take effect. Speidel responded that per the resolution, the rates could take effect within 30 days of passage of the recent resolution. This would be mid-June, which is effectively July 1 since permits are charged on a monthly basis. Maglaras stated that there was a concern that implementing permit fees prematurely in several lots would effectively push people out to the streets. Discussion ensued on the timing of implementing permit fees in the Third and Fourth/Chestnut Lots. Speidel stated that with the exception of Third and Fourth/Chestnut Lots, all other permit fees amended by the resolution would be in practice as of July 1. Reynolds stated that we should wait to charge permit fees in the Third and Fourth/Chestnut Lots until the lots are metered. Buckley stated that this was a bad idea. Joyal stated that if the Commission wants the fees to be implemented sooner, staff will implement them sooner.

Reynolds then suggested that he wanted to move the agenda along and also made a reference to time limits. Joyal stated that city staff will enforce time limits if needed. Joyal also stated that due to an issue with cash flow, the timing of meter installation would probably not occur until after January 1. Joyal suggested that if we wait until after the holidays for full rollout, there will be less detrimental effect on the downtown merchants. Barufaldi stated that he can attest that merchants are concerned about the timing of the rollout. Buckley asked whether a public meeting should be arranged. Discussion ensued. Maglaras stated that there would likely be reaction of the merchants if the process was not publicized. Reynolds suggested that the agenda be moved along.

Maglaras moved to enter non-public session in order to discuss a pending claim / litigation and to discuss personnel matters. Seconded by McManus. Motion passed 5-0.

Resident Jeff Harrington asked a question about whether the topic of the non-public session would be disclosed, and if so, how it would be released. Chairman Reynolds stated that the Commission would vote whether to seal the minutes and if the minutes were not sealed, they would be released.

Recording was terminated and members adjourned to non-public session.

Members returned to regular meeting, along with City Manager Joyal. All other City staff members were not present. Next meeting was tentatively scheduled for June 2. Adjourned.