

METUCHEN PARKING AUTHORITY
APRIL 15, 2014 MINUTES

PRESENT:

Commissioners: Leonard Roseman, John DeFoe, Rick Dyas, Anthony Campisi and Sean Massey
Borough Council Liaison:
Chamber Liaison:
Legal Counsel: James Graziano
Executive Director: Thomas Crownover

Mr. Massey moved, with second by Mr. Dyas to suspend the usual order of business to hear from Michael Ciesielka, president of Nexus Parking Systems. The motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Ciesielka discussed observations of parking patron movements in and out of the Pearl lot. Mr. Roseman noted that a tour of Metuchen helped identify potential interim parking locations. Mike anticipated a two stage movement of cars from Pearl to accommodate future construction. The first stage of 441 cars would be done without great difficulty. The second stage of 225 would be more problematic. All agreed that speed of construction is crucial to maximizing tax revenue benefiting the Borough. Renaissance may be an option but new lighting is required. A last resort would be shuttle service to the nearest available location. Mike said that people will find their own way within 3 months of the beginning of interim parking. Increased Kiss and Ride has its own difficulties but would reduce space requirements.

Mr. Roseman commented that tactful, considerate Main Street enforcement is essential to improving customer parking on Main Street. Valet parking at Halsey might add 125 spaces. Distinct painted spaces in the aisles would fill after the regular spaces. Aisle vehicles will be moved to regular spaces as available in the afternoon. Mike said that special liability insurance coverage protects them from claims arising from valet parking. Problems are inevitable but a professional service irons out the wrinkles. Mike looked for media to be key – generating a single plan with a map with interim lots and communicated to customers. Public notice through New Jersey Transit and posting on the Nexus Website would help communicate alerts.

MINUTES:

The minutes of the March 18, 2014 meeting as amended were moved for approval by Mr. Dyas, seconded by Mr. Massey and approved unanimously.

BILLS:

Mr. DeFoe questioned items on the Bill List. Mr. Crownover advised late entries were not included on the original Bill List but appear on two additional requisitions. Copies were provided to the commissioners. Mr. Graziano commented on legal fees of the Wilentz firm.

CORRESPONDENCE:

The anonymous complaint concerning inability to back out of Penn Avenue spaces due to waiting cars had been referred to the police. Zoning notices were reviewed.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

A reduction in revenue followed the harsh winter weather.

March Income: \$111,709.94; Year to date Income: \$299,586.58.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Crownover discussed the communication program and the initial organizing meeting with Mike Ciesielka, Jay Muldoon and Morris Enyert. Correspondence by Email to wait list and permit holders is anticipated to provide information as needed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Graziano said that 40% of COAH must be built before other units are started. They will be located at the American Legion end of the Pearl. The deck will take 9 to 12 months.

Mr. Dyas asked again about COBRA healthcare premium charges for Mr. Guinane and Mr. Mohr.

The Inn Place transaction awaits approval of the seller's mortgage lender.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Crownover reviewed pay by cell noting ParkMobile's recent cooperation. Mr. Bartley of ParkMobile said a 45 cent transaction fee would avoid any expense on the Authority's part and would survive a pilot. Mr. Roseman said that a one year contract would be workable. A pilot could include Main Street as well as our lots. Mr. Massey asked to have a ParkMobile representative at the May 20th meeting. Mr. Roseman asked that a second year at 45 cents should be part of the agreement. Mr. DeFoe recommended a simple pilot to gauge the program. Mr. Graziano advised that no bid was required. Mr. Crownover noted the benefits of less frequent collections, and less wear and tear on mechanisms, housings and keys.

The Nelson / Nygaard study and plan will be reviewed for presentation to affected constituencies and the Mayor and Council. Mr. Dyas likened the plan to a master plan or guide rather than items that must be implemented. A workshop on the plan was suggested by Mr. DeFoe, agreed to by the other commissioners and scheduled for Wednesday April 23.

REPORT OF COUNCIL LIASION

ADJOURNMENT:

Adjournment was moved by Mr. Campisi, seconded by Mr. Massey and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Thomas Crownover