

METUCHEN PARKING AUTHORITY
DECEMBER 17, 2013 MINUTES

PRESENT:

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

MINUTES:

The minutes, of the November 19, 2013 meeting were moved for approval by Mr. Dyas, seconded by Mr. DeFoe and approved unanimously.

BILLS:

Mr. Roseman briefly discussed the bill list. The inoperable locks on several bike lockers were discussed. Mr. Roseman asked the Director to have a locksmith repair them. Mr. Dyas moved to pay the bills as presented which was seconded by Mr. Massey and approved unanimously.

Mr. Roseman proposed a meeting with the planning and zoning boards to discuss parking ratios. Mr. Muldoon also discussed the parking ordinance and the need for revision.

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Construction on Hillside Avenue was discussed in light of parking ratios.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mr. Roseman noted the \$700,000 payment to the borough.

November Income: \$100,416.94; Year to date Income: \$1,187,735.60.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Crownover noted a chronic problem of cleaning our lots without a parking lot sweeper. A large street vehicle would not be appropriate for cleaning parking lots. Mr. Roseman looked to Nexus and what they would use to clean the parking structure. A discussion of the cost of a lot sweeper followed. Mr. Graziano noted that Woodmont will maintain the plaza. Mr. Roseman asked if Transit might share the cost of this equipment since it will be used for their lots. Capital needs of the Authority have been funded by the Borough for several years allowing the Authority to contribute \$700,000 annually to reduce the real estate tax burden of Metuchen residents. Mr.

Roseman expressed the consensus of the commissioners in saying that we should purchase a lot sweeper and seek cost sharing from Transit.

On Pay By Cell, Mr. Crownover anticipated that sooner or later we would provide this convenience to our customers. The Director believes that this system will reduce the frequency of collections and the maintenance expense of our meter mechanisms and housings. Bidding may not be necessary. Mr. Graziano asked that proposals be sought. Mr. Ciesielka of Nexus uses Park Mobile and Park Now and would not use this service in our deck. Mr. Muldoon noted the significant benefit to customers and said that marketing the system would be needed to inform them.

In house violation enforcement was discussed. A proposal was provided by Rydin which would cost 99 cents per ticket or \$1,000.00 annually on our expected number of violations. Mr. DeFoe noted credit card issuer policy that permits municipalities to charge a service fee rather than absorb the cost of credit transactions. Mr. Muldoon discussed this with Mr. Boerth and the Mayor. Enforcement would use the vendor's software and printers along with smart phones. New Brunswick has used United Public Safety to do this. Mr. Graziano asked for a sample ticket from Rydin.

Mr. Muldoon met with the police chief and the captain to discuss Main Street meter enforcement. It was concluded that Authority enforcement could accomplish this. Mr. Muldoon asked for a plan to accomplish the task of Main Street enforcement. Mr. Dyas noted objections would come from enforcement. Mr. Crownover observed that an interim parking plan during construction on Pearl lot might make it difficult to move 40 cars off of Main Street. Mr. Roseman mentioned a previous experience with meter maid enforcement and the need to seek support from the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. DeFoe noted that support from merchants who did not belong to the Chamber was also needed. Mr. Muldoon questioned if a meter maid might be needed.

Mr. Roseman advised that New Brunswick was raising deck rates to \$160.00 monthly and contributes about \$4 million yearly to the city.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Dyas moved to enter closed session to discuss negotiations with the American Legion. It was seconded by Mr. Massey and approved unanimously.

After lengthy closed session Mr. Dyas moved to enter regular session, was seconded by Mr. Massey and approved unanimously.

Mr. Massey discussed Nelson / Nygaard's parking plan. Tom Brown will be invited by Mr. Massey to the January Authority meeting to consider the plan. Mr. Roseman suggested that a global meeting with Mr. Brown present would be desirable in early February. Mike Ciesielka of Nexus will be invited to the January meeting by Mr. Crownover.

NEW BUSINESS:

REPORT OF COUNCIL LIASION

ADJOURNMENT:

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

Respectfully submitted,