

PARKING ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Minutes

Wednesday, March 17, 2021

7:15 a.m.

Public Safety Center Training Room

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Pete Turok, Chair	Roger Hoffhein	Gregory Bortnem	Steve Jenson
Jackie Young	Borgie Bonthuis	Julie Smith	

STAFF PRESENT: Police Chief Eric Peterson and Executive Assistant Julie Spletstoesser

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Pete Turok called the meeting to order at 7:19 a.m.

OATH OF OFFICE

Chief Peterson then gave the Oath of Office to Jackie Young. Everyone went around the table to introduce themselves. Chair Pete Turok explained to new member Jackie Young and new EDC representative Julie Smith what the Parking Advisory Board does as far as making recommendations to bring to the City Council. The City Council makes the final decision.

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 2021 MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Gregory Bortnem to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Roger Hoffhein and passed by unanimous vote.

DISCUSSION – Parking on Madison Street

The Chief reported that he received a complaint that vehicles are parking right next to the driveway at 541 Madison Street, which makes it hard to pull in and out of the driveway. Commission members did have a chance to drive by this location and did notice vehicles parking right next to the driveway and on both sides of the street. This street is a normal 30' wide street. There are multiple apartment complexes in the area. Chief Peterson said there is no signage on Madison Street, however there used to be on north side of the street. Ben Nelson, the City Engineer, was not available for comment. Chief Peterson said in speaking with city staff there was a street renewal project in 2016 and the signs were never replaced after the project was completed. The resident at 541 Madison Street is asking that the street be reviewed for no parking on one side of Madison Street. There is no parking on one side on Jefferson Street, Monroe Street, and Washington Street. The driveway of 541 Madison Street is on the north side. Chair Turok suggested that all members drive by to look at the parking on these streets. Chair Turok asked if this is something we should table or do we feel comfortable to make a motion. Borgie Bonthuis made a motion to put no parking signs on the north side of Madison from 5th to 6th Ave. Gregory Bortnem seconded the motion, and it passed by unanimous vote. Chief Peterson will meet with the City Manager to discuss any ordinance issues and will update the board at the next meeting.

DISCUSSION – Parking on 1st Avenue in the 2000 block, Unused Loading Zone for old Main Floral

Chair Pete Turok said this space was originally used for flower delivery trucks for Main Floral and the need for this spot is not used for what it was originally intended for as Main Floral has moved to 2nd Avenue. Jackie Young said this spot is mainly used as a U-turn now and delivery trucks do not use this spot, as the space is not big enough. Chief Peterson said we could gain another spot. Further discussion was had about what businesses are in the building. There used to be a school in the building, but they walked from Sandburg. Gregory Bortnem made a motion to eliminate that loading zone and return it to a regular parking spot. Roger Hoffhein seconded that motion, and it passed by unanimous vote.

PARKING ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS

Chair Pete Turok then went over the parking ticket stats for January and February. Chief Peterson explained the parking and the parking zones and how the CSO's monitor these areas. Turok said there is a reason for 1, 2, and 3 hour parking in downtown Anoka. It is all about the customers and getting them into Anoka. Chief Peterson then went over the overnight parking stats for January and February. He stated our officers and CSO's utilize discretion on issuing ticket. It is not to make money, but to educate the public on the ordinance of no parking from 2-6 am. With the snowfall, it is hard for our plows to remove snow with vehicles parked on the street overnight. Steve Jenson said it would be nice to get an update on parking permit sales. Chair Pete Turok said that the Walker ramp has been full with permits. Chief Peterson then explained how the permits work to the new members. Borgie Bonthuis asked if there were any complaints about 2nd Avenue from Monroe to Madison. Chief Peterson said the main complaint that we get is parking on both sides of the road makes it feel too tight. There was no further discussion.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Borgie Bonthuis and seconded by Roger Hoffhein. It was passed by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 7:52 a.m.

Respectfully,

Chief Eric Peterson

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 21, 2021 at 7:15 a.m. at the Public Safety Training Room.