

Advisory Parking Committee
Meeting of May 3, 2023
151 Martin Street, City Commission Room, Birmingham, MI

Minutes

These are the minutes of the Advisory Parking Committee ("APC") regular meeting held on Wednesday, May 3, 2023. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 a.m. by Chair Vaitas.

1. Rollcall

Present: Chair Al Vaitas, Vice-Chair Richard Astrein; Jim Arpin, Kevin Kozlowski, Mary-Claire Petcoff, Lisa Silverman, Jennifer Yert

Absent: Lisa Clark, Kelly Cobb

Staff: Parking Systems Manager Ford; City Transcriptionist Eichenhorn, Police Captain Wald

SP+: Catherine Burch

2. Introductions

3. Approval Of Minutes: Meeting Of February 1, 2023

Motion by VC Astrein

Seconded by Ms. Yert to accept the minutes of February 1, 2023 as amended.

Motion carried, 7-0.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Vaitas, Kozlowski, Astrein, Petcoff, Arpin, Silverman, Yert

Nays: None

4. Moped parking – Poles/bollards installed – Waiting on ETA on sleeves

PSM Ford presented the item.

Motion by Mr. Kozlowski

Seconded by VC Astrein to recommend that the Multi-Modal Transportation Board install bicycle parking in the moped parking spaces.

Motion carried, 7-0.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Vaitas, Kozlowski, Astrein, Petcoff, Arpin, Silverman, Yert

Nays: None

5. Parking Citations – Propose to increase fines for various citations – Captain Wald to

present

PC Wald presented the item and answered informational questions from the APC.

Dr. Silverman recommended that the fines for expired meters remain low, and that the fine for multiple violations be raised. She said there was not evidence that a higher fine would deter parkers from letting their meters expire. She noted that gaining revenue from the parking system was not the APC's or City's primary goal. She also noted there was some public reaction to parking changes in a nearby municipality, and that those concerns could affect the impression of potential parking changes in Birmingham as well.

Ms. Yert concurred.

The Chair said that parking violations are avoidable.

VC Astrein said the majority of offenders were merchants, not patrons of the City's businesses.

VC Astrein agreed with Dr. Silverman that an increase in fines for repeat meter violations was appropriate.

PC Wald summarized the aforementioned parking changes in the nearby municipality at the request of the Chair.

Motion by VC Astrein

Seconded by Mr. Kozlowski to recommend to the City Commission an increase in expired meter violation to \$20, and \$100 after five violations in a calendar year. Also to increase the parking violations to \$175 for handicap.

Motion carried, 7-0.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Vaitas, Kozlowski, Astrein, Petcoff, Arpin, Silverman, Yert

Nays: None

6. Monthly Parking

PSM Ford presented the items. PSM Ford and Ms. Burch answered informational questions from the APC.

- a. Increase Monthly rate – Starting July 1st

VC Astrein suggested that a premium be added to the most heavily utilized garages. Dr. Silverman concurred.

Motion by Dr. Silverman

Seconded by VC Astrein to raise the monthly rate for Chester to \$70, Old Woodward, Park, and Peabody to \$90, and Pierce to \$100 per month.

Motion carried, 7-0.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Vaitas, Kozlowski, Astrein, Petcoff, Arpin, Silverman, Yert

Nays: None

- b. Survey
- c. Increase allocation to sell?
 - i. Park St. Garage – increase by 100 passes
 - ii. Pierce St. Garage – increase by 50 passes

Ms. Petcoff said she was concerned about those with parking passes not being able to find a parking spot in their assigned parking deck around lunchtime.

PSM Ford and Ms. Burch said that the approach was incremental for that reason and that the counts would be monitored daily.

Motion by Dr. Silverman

Seconded by Ms. Yert to increase the Park St. Garage by 100 passes and the Pierce St. Garage by 50.

Motion carried, 7-0.

VOICE VOTE

Yeas: Vaitas, Kozlowski, Astrein, Petcoff, Arpin, Silverman, Yert

Nays: None

7. Addendums to Two Contracts

PSM Ford summarized the items and answered informational questions from the APC.

Ms. Yert noted that the increased fees were helping improve the parking garages and that the public should be made aware of that.

- a. WJE Amendment - \$192,000 – Park St. Garage Façade Alternative
- b. Traffic & Safety - \$72,706 – N. Old Woodward island replacement

8. N. Old Woodward Garage Construction

PSM Ford summarized the items and answered informational questions from the APC.

- a. Pulling ahead construction of this garage.
- b. Bid Opening – 4/28/23
- c. Project work to start May 9th with a completion of October 31st
- d. Peabody and Chester Garages next

9. Misc. Communication

PSM Ford summarized the items.

- a. March APS Update
- b. [RH Article](#)

10. Meeting open to the public for items not on the agenda

In reply to VC Astrein, PC Wald said there were ongoing discussions regarding enforcement and parking for delivery services.

In reply to Mr. Arpin, PSM Ford said that the City was working on increasing electric vehicle (EV) charging capacity, and that updating the garages to accommodate EV charging in the future was part of the garage updates. PSM Ford also stated that weight allowances were being assessed for the parking garages.

In reply to Ms. Yert, PSM Ford and Ms. Burch stated that some positive feedback had been received regarding the parking garage entry and exit systems. They also noted that lines to enter and exit the garages were less long.

In reply to APC inquiry, PSM Ford provided answers about APC vacancies.

11. Adjournment

No further business being evident, the meeting adjourned at 8:36 a.m.



Aaron Ford, Parking Systems Manager

Laura Eichenhorn, City Transcriptionist