City of Westfield, Massachusetts
OFF STREET PARKING COMMISSION

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2:00PM
WESTFIELD CITY CLERK

Gary Tomestic, Chairman
Brian Hoose
Eli Meyer
Gianpaolo Sesti
Gail Yarmesky
Andrew Surprise, Council Liaison

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OFF-STREET PARKING COMMISSION
Wednesday, June 15,2016 meeting, 6:00 P.M.,
59 Court Street, City Hall, Room 201 Westfield, MA

MINUTES

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Present was: Chairman Gary Tomestic, Commissioner Brian Hoose, Commissioner Gail Yarmesky, Commissioner Gianpaolo Sesti and newly sworn in Commissioner Meyer.

Absent was: Councilor Andrew Surprise.

Next commission meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 20, 2016

A motion was made by Commissioner Hoose, seconded and VOTED to approve the minutes of April 20, 2016 minutes as presented.

Public Participation:

Madeline Nicolletti chairperson with the Citizens with Disabiliteis was present as stated the following:

- It has come to her attention that an anonymous citizen of Westfield has a complaint that the two (2) handicapped parking spaces behind Leos Deli in the Thomas Street parking lot has moved to another location when the lot was redone.
- He is very upset that the handicapped parking spaces have been moved.
- She is asking that the Commission look into it and restore it back to the original spaces where they previously were before the construction took place.
- They might be happy if at least one was restored back to where it previously was.
- She was recently at a seminar and stated an estimated 20% of the population is handicapped.

A discussion was held.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sesti, seconded and VOTED to have the secretary research the relocation of the handicapped spaces in the Thomas Street lot and put this item on the agenda to discuss at the next Commission meeting.

Regular Business:

None

Secretarial reports/updates:

1. The secretary stated that there were no updates on the pending Ordinance language change. The Law Dept. is still working on confirming the parking lot parcels that were surplus to WRA.

2. The secretary reported the following regarding the Gaslight Project:
    a. Work is still being done on Summer and Spring Street. Those streets are closed to through traffic Monday through Friday 7am to 5pm until further notice.

3. The secretary reported the following regarding the remodeling of the Franklin Street Parking:
    a. As of last Friday, two thirds of the Franklin Street lot has been open to the public.
    b. The construction crew has their lay down area in this lot.
    c. This is still under construction so motorists must continue to use caution.
    d. The entrance/exit into the Franklin Street lot has been changed. You will be able to enter and exit the lot from Franklin Street and Summer Street. You will no longer be able to enter from Elm Street. You will only be able to exit the lot onto Elm Street.
    e. The alley way near the Nook and behind the store fronts on Elm Street from the G & E to the Franklin Street lot have been come a pedestrian walkway. Parking in these areas is now prohibited. Only Service trucks are allowed to drive back there. The secretary will be working on signage for enforcement.
    f. The secretary after her weekly meetings will continue to update residents and business owners via a phone notification system of any impacts or changes.

4. The secretary reported the following regarding the Arnold Gravel lot.
    a. On June 6, 2016 PVTA fenced in the rest of their property.
    b. Motorists cannot access the Arnold Gravel lot from Arnold Street.
    c. They have been instructed to enter and exit by entering the lot from Church Street and proceed to the old Arnold Lot drive thru near the job site fencing and the old bowling alley.

d. The secretary went to speak with each of the business owners' downtown to advise them of this change and answer any questions they had.

5. The secretary reported the following regarding maintenance of the Off Street Parking Lots:
   a. Dave Moretti from Garten finished the Spring cleanup in the following parking lots:
      - Main Street Restaurant Lot
      - Depot Lot
      - Railroad Avenue Lot
      - River Walk Lot
      - Thomas Street Lot
   b. Dave Moretti from Garten will be doing the mulching, hand weeding and pruning for the lots.
   c. The secretary instructed the commission that when she put in a purchase order for weekly maintenance for the municipal parking lots the auditor stated that this type of work is not allowed to be used from the Revolving Account.

      Therefore, a letter was sent to Mayor Sullivan requesting City Council approve an amendment Order establishing the Commission's revolving account by allowing funds to be expended for purchasing signs, maintenance and repairs and track pick up and removal in the off street parking lots. The secretary will advise the commission next month with any updates.

Administrative Business:

1. A motion was made by Commissioner Hoose, seconded and VOTED to approve the monthly bills as presented.

2. A motion was made by Commissioner Hoose, seconded and VOTED to approve and sign the annual City Contract authorization form.

With no further business the meeting adjourned at 6.40.

Gary Tomestic

Approved:
Chairman Tomestic