

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
645 PINE STREET
BURLINGTON, VERMONT 05401
COMMISSION MEETING JULY 17, 2024
DRAFT MINUTES

For video of the meeting, please visit Town Meeting TV's YouTube Channel:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k0r9VW6DgXY&t=978s>

Commissioners Present: Commissioner Barr, Commissioner Damiani Commissioner Davis, Commissioner Munteanu; Commissioner O'Neill-Vivanco, Commissioner Sears (via zoom)

Commissioner Absent: Commissioner Fox

ITEM 1 – CALL TO ORDER

Director Spencer called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

ITEM 2 – AGENDA

Commissioner Barr made a motion to accept the agenda
Commissioner O'Neill-Vivanco seconded
Unanimous approval

ITEM 3 – ELECTION OF CHAIR, VICE CHAIR & SECRETARY

Commissioner O'Neill-Vivanco nominated Commissioner Damiani for Chair and Commissioner Fox as Vice Chair and Val Ducharme as Secretary

Commissioner Barr seconded

Unanimous approval

ITEM 4 – PUBLIC FORUM

Julia Hondle is a resident of Ward 4 and commented that the fee increase for residential parking should be raised higher than what is suggested.

Sharon Bushor resident around the hospital area and would like to speak about residential parking. Ms. Bushor has no problem with the proposed increase. A lot of the areas that have this program are those that have low income people who don't have adequate off street parking. Program was implemented that took away the visible sticker that was put on the bumper of the car to be a digital sticker that parking enforcement saw but not residents. We have to call if we think there is a violator and someone has to come up which gets to the point of enforcement. During baseball games there are a lot of people who park on the street but we never see parking enforcement in the area to enforce the resident only parking. We end up with the inability to have visitors come our house as there is inadequate off street parking in this

area. Also made mention of the parking garages and the fees that were increased downtown. The parking garages smell of urine and there are activities going on that do not make an older woman feel safe. Question how the department can recommend raising the fees knowing the situation in those structures.

ITEM 5 – CONSENT AGENDNA

4.1 Approval of Draft Minutes 6-26-24

4.2 Annual Commissioner report to City Council

Commissioner Munteanu made a motion to adopt the consent agenda

Commissioner Barr seconded

Unanimous approval

ITEM 6 – RESIDENTIAL PARKING PERMITS RATE CHANGE

Parking Manager Mark Bilodeau gave a review of the background of the residential parking program. The requested rate is to \$20.00 per pass.

Commissioner Barr was in favor of the rate change. Also stated that for some low-income folks this might be a challenge.

Commissioner Sears felt that the prices were too low.

Assistant Director Jacqui Esperti stated that an e-mail were sent out to people and most advised they did not want an increase.

Commissioner Munteanu asked about the cost of the program to include enforcement and was informed it was about \$40,000 a year.

Commissioner Davis was asking about the residential parking programs. Explanations were given to him how the program worked.

Commissioner O'Neill-Vivanco was in favor of the increase but to also acknowledge the low-income families. Asked how enforcement with the virtual permits and the inability for residents to monitor this. How frequently does parking go out?

Parking Manager Bilodeau stated that there is a list of residential streets in which the parking enforcement goes to daily and check off the streets every day.

A customer who lives on Case Parkway questioned why they have to pay to park on the street. Director Spencer stated

that in the review of RPP in 2016 people have an extra level of service to regulate parking on the street.

Assistant Director Esperti read a memo from Commissioner Fox in support of the fee increase. Would like formal language to do reviews every two years when the permits expired.

Commissioner Barr made a motion to accept staff's recommendation to include the review every 2 years.

Commissioner O'Neill-Vivanco seconded.

Commissioner Munteanu asked about language every 2 years in ordinance and Director Spencer explained to him that this is not an ordinance this is direction from the Commissioner.

There were questions about 1 hour guest parking on Bradley Street and North Willard Street. Director Spencer stated there were also four spaces on South Prospect people could park at that were nonresidents during certain hours of the day.

Commissioner Barr made a motion to approve with amendments.

Commissioner O'Neill-Vivanco seconded.

Unanimous approval.

ITEM 7 – DOWNTOWN SPEED LIMIT

Senior Planner Philip Peterson gave a review of the proposal to put the speed limit within the downtown area to 20 miles per hour.

Commissioner Munteanu stated this is designated for one and a half blocks. Senior Planner Peterson stated that 20 miles an hour in the downtown district.

Commissioner O'Neill-Vivanco asked if that could go up to Union Street near the school district.

ITEM 8 – SCHEDULING COMMISSION WORK SESSION ON FY '25 GOALS

Commissioner Damiani stated that this session is where we can look to be more effective as a commission. We will make some form of a calendar and Chapin will need to publicly warn the meeting

ITEM 9 - DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Thank you for the support for the design for Bank and Cherry Street reconnecting

We received 4 bids for the final stage of the Champlain Parkway

Ron Goulding – Public Engagement Plan was a success and we are looking for ways to improve this as well.

Stanbury Road pedestrian project is ready to start

Main Street is closed between Church and So. Winooski

CSWD is reopening the Pine street location for trash and compostable as well as recycling

We will be having a new website coming up in the next few months

Chapin's annual report approved and we need your signatures on it please

ITEM 10 – COMMISSIONER ITEMS

Commissioner Munteanu asked if there was a specific date for the Champlain Parkway will open. There is no set date yet.

Asked about sewage overflow. Rob Goulding advised there were just a few over the last few storms.

Commissioner Barr thanks DPW for the speed-reader sign. Asked about temporary speed bumps. Rob Goulding informed hey just came in and will be put in place within the next few weeks. Commissioner Barr asked when the pylons were coming for the Chase Street bump out.

Commissioner O'Neill-Vivanco asked about the holes going up on College Street. Bicyclist prefer going up College Street. We need paint on the crosswalks on Prospect Street. Public engagement has come so far hope to strengthen what we have been doing.

Commissioner Damiani asked about meeting on alternative to meet, can it be e mail.

Commissioner Davis asked how to put stuff on the agenda. Pine Street and Lakeside Avenue stated traffic in this area is difficult. Entrance under the railway pass ice never goes away. Drainage being cleaned out.

ITEM 11 – ADJOURNMENT & NEXT MEETING DATE - SEPTEMBER 18, 2014

Commissioner Barr made a motion to adjourn

Commissioner O'Neill-Vivanco seconded

Unanimous approval