

Burlington Department of Public Works Commission Meeting
Draft Minutes, 21 September 2016
645 Pine Street

Commissioners Present: Tiki Archambeau, Jim Barr, Chris Gillman, Solveig Overby, Justine Sears, Jeff Padgett

Commissioner Absent: Robert Alberry

Item 1 – Call to Order – Welcome – Chair Comments

Chair Padgett calls meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. and makes opening comments.

Item 2 – Agenda

Commissioner Barr made motion to accept the agenda.
Commissioner Archambeau seconded
Motion approved - unanimous

Item 3 – Public Forum

A resident of Mansfield Avenue concerned about Department's recommendation to remove parking along Mansfield to ensure sight distances at mid-block crosswalk. He feels there is no need to change the status quo. Parking on west side is limited.

A Ward 1 resident agrees with the above resident. He attended the Great Street presentation last week and was concerned that it was more for the downtown area and less of an investment in the neighborhood areas.

A resident complained about the sewer odor that was coming out of the catch basins at the intersection of Pearl Street and Union Street. She also stated that she did not understand how ten thousand gallons of combined sewage and storm water can go into our lake with the facilities that we have for wastewater.

A resident from Ward 4 came in with her petition all done and copies made for the blocked road to be open at the condo development where she lives. City Engineer Norm Baldwin stated that there was now an opposing petition in process as well and he would follow up with both parties.

Item 4 – Consent Agenda

- A. Traffic Request Program Status Report
- B. Parking Restriction on South Crest Drive
- C. Additional Parking on High Grove Court
- D. But Stop Removal at Pine St and Bank St
- E. Parking Restriction @ midblock crosswalk on Mansfield Ave
- F. Installing Metered Parking on Pearl Street
- G. Request to Add Loading Zone on Marble Ave

Commissioner Archambeau made a motion to pull off Marble Avenue and Mansfield Avenue items (Items E & G).

Commissioner Barr seconded
Unanimous Approval

Commissioner Padgett changed Item E to 4.1 and Item G to 4.2

Commissioner Barr motioned to accept
Commissioner Archambeau seconded
Passed unanimously

Item 4.1 Parking restriction @ midblock crosswalk on Mansfield Avenue – Damian Roy

There is a three way stop sign installed at Mansfield Avenue and Loomis Street which reduces parking around the mid-block crossing area. The changes in sightline around the mid-block are an improvement in which most people are in favor of this with the exception of the ones who live near the area.

Another resident stated she felt this was not about the crosswalk but parking for drop off at school at 8:00 a.m. put parking restriction for school.

Commissioner Archambeau made a motion to accept staff's recommendation to restrict parking 20 feet north and south of the crosswalk to increase sight lines between pedestrians and motorists increasing safety for those using the crosswalk.

Commissioner Barr supports as it is used for more than Mater Christi School.
Unanimous approval.

Item 4.2 Request to add loading zone on Marble Avenue – Damian Roy

Damien Roy stated there was a request for a loading zone by Battery Street Jeans on the Marble Avenue side. He went and looked at the location and made contact with the residents in the area as well as the other businesses which all vie for parking on Marble Avenue. They felt there was no use for a loading zone there as there is a vacant lot for parking for all the businesses in the area, including Battery Street Jeans. Residents are not in support of this loading zone.

Stu, owner of Battery Street Jeans stated there is a private parking area but as his business opens later by the time they arrive the lot is usually full.

Various Commissioners asked if staff could further review the recommendation and explore a modified recommendation with some type of time-limited parking restriction.

Commissioner Barr made a motion to table the item and have staff do additional review.
Commissioner Archambeau seconded.
Unanimous approval

Item 5 Driveway Encroachment Ordinance – Damien Roy

DPW has received a number of complaints of cars parking too close to private driveways in high parking demand areas. Residents want signage or lines on the street for people to be aware of driveways in the area. DPW staff has brought forward a proposed driveway encroachment

ordinance to prohibit parking within two feet of a driveway. The results of the pilot study is in the packet. Staff is seeking final approval with the ordinance change.

Burlington Police will respond to blocked driveway complaints and will remove the car if driveway is completely blocked.

Commissioner Gulland motioned to approve staff's recommendation to No person shall park any vehicle at any time in front of another person's driveway and within two feet of another person's driveway as measured from the straight-lined edge of the driveway.

Commissioner Sears seconded

Unanimous approval

Item 6 – Parking Removal Starr Farm Road – Damien Roy

There is an issue of cars parking on the north side of Starr Farm Road – Flynn School greenbelt area which is eroded and against city ordinance to park there. The roadway is too narrow for parking. The city ordinance states that lawn parking is prohibited for the city except for Ward 4. Staff has recommended restricting parking north and south from North Avenue to Grey Meadow Drive and keep it open and let parking resume after Grey Meadow Drive.

There are 17 parking spaces that can be used by parents to bring kids into school but there is an empty parking lot on the north side which no cars park in. Warning tickets are being issued by the police

Commissioner Archambeau moves to accept staff's recommendation to restrict parking on the north and south sides of Starr Farm Road from North Avenue extending west to Grey Meadow Drive.

Commissioner Barr seconded

Unanimous approval

Item 7 – Request to Modify Resident Only Parking on South Prospect Street – Damien Roy

A Resident at 308 South Prospect asked for the residential parking restriction be modified. A petition was received by the Department indicating 85% want full time residential only parking.

Another resident noted that people are up in the area early and the parking in the streets is filled fairly quickly . Delivery vehicles have a hard time making deliveries due to the parking being taken up. She supports three 4 hour parking limit.

Staff recommends adopting installing full time resident parking and 4-hour parking for non-residents on South Prospect Street from Henderson Terrace to Cliff Street from 8am - 5p.m as shown on the attached drawing.

Commissioner Overby stated she cannot support narrowed resident parking all day without allowing the public to use these spaces up to four hours / day.

Commissioner Archambeau moves to accept staff's recommendation

Commissioner Barr seconds.

Commissioner Overby opposes and all others are in favor.

Item 8 – Introduction to Plan BTV Walk Bike – Nicole Losch

Staff provided a presentation on Plan BTV Walk/Bike. Staff responded to questions and said they would return to the October meeting looking for Commission approval.

Item 9 – 10 Year Capital Plan – Director Spencer

Asked for this items to be considered for next month as the hour was getting late. It was mentioned that this was already passed by City Council.

Commissioner Barr motioned to table until next month.

Commissioner Archambeau seconded.

Unanimous approval

Item 10 – Draft minutes of 7/20/16

Commissioner Archambeau wants the minutes to explicitly describe what action was taken by Commission. It is hard to follow if the minutes just say that the Commission voted for or against staff's recommendation. Approval of the July minutes was tabled until Clerk Gillman works with staff to revise the minutes accordingly.

Item 11 – Director's Report

There is a memo on the Commission's webpage on the water main relining.

The Commission needs to select a Diversity and Equity point person to attend a training.

City Council approval on Monday Chittenden Solid Waste District 3 year MOU with a three year option to purchase 195-201 Flynn Avenue for a CSWD drop off center.

An update on the TIF-funded Great Streets effort was provided.

The North Ave Pilot continues with an online survey. 1400 responses have been received to date.

People have until October 2nd to take the survey.

Staff has worked extensively with City Market, Planning & Zoning and South End neighbors to ensure the proposed South End City Market project addresses City concerns.

Item 12 – Commissioner's Communication

Commissioner Archambeau stated he had lots of complaints about Grant Street and the number of vehicles idling on the street.

Director Spencer stated it is being repaved and provided an update on timing. We are also coordinating work with IAA school drop off area on Archibald Street.

Commissioner Archambeau also stated that sign on corner of Crombie and North Winooski at Barrio Bakery may be too close to the corner.

Commissioner Gillman stated Compliment on the North Avenue pilot, glad to see it being treated as a pilot. Director Spencer stated the department removed a number of bollards between BHS and Route 127 to better accommodate emergency vehicles.

Commissioner Barr stated the Colchester Avenue intersection there are a significant number of bumps in the road and large trucks go over them and shake adjacent houses.

Item 13 – Adjournment

Commissioner Barr made a motion to adjourn.

Commissioner Gillman seconded.

Unanimous approval.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.