



MINUTES
Committee on Public Safety Special Meeting
Thursday, June 7, 2018 @ 6:00 p.m.
Letts Community Center

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting called to order at 6:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Member Carol Wood, Chair
Council Member Adam Hussain, Vice Chair
Council Member Jeremy Garza, Member

OTHERS PRESENT

Sherrie Boak, Council Staff
Heather Sumner, Deputy City Attorney
Brian T. Jackson, Council Member
Judy Fox
Steve Foucier
Celestine Herd
Larry Strauser
Carol Rawl
Maggie Bayers
Joy Gleason
Mark Edick
Mitzi Allen
Beth, new resident
Steve Rawl
Tim Retzloff
Cole Bouck
Marilyn Plummer, Mayors Office – arrived at 7:09 p.m.

DISCUSSION/ACTIONS

• **Ordinance on 2am – 5 am Parking**

Council Member Wood outlined the Committee's plan for the ordinance. This included an explanation for the meetings in the public, which included a previous years communication from the Police Chief asking Council to look at the 2am – 5 am parking ordinance. After hearing the public concerns, the Committee will take back all the comments and consider changes. Noted was the current ordinance which states no parking between 2 am – 5 am, and this initially had to do with street sweeping, snow plowing, and housing overcrowding. At one point, she noted, there was a parking enforcement officer to enforce this parking regulation. During review in the past there were options to consider such as a permit parking, parking on opposite side of the street during a scheduled time slot, and consideration with different

topography in difference areas of the City. Council Member Hussain encouraged the public that whatever is drafted will be reflected of what they have heard. Council Member Garza noted he was encouraged by the comments made so far in the public and was interested into what the comments would be.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Fox, resident on Kensington, noted her concerns with the safety hazard with parking on the street, and provided an example of parking on her street and calling enforcement. Ms. Fox concluded with a concern with two sided parking and the removal of the enforcement of 2 am – 5 am parking, asking for the enforcement of it.

Mr. Fouchier asked the ordinance have content and purpose. If parking is prohibited in that time frame, his concern was that they would have to park blocks away in downtown area at a ramp. Mr. Fouchier asked the ordinance to provide a purpose, not to hinder them, particularly in downtown. Council Member Wood noted that when the lofts in downtown were approved she recalled a condition that would let the residents park on the streets during the evening and for loading and unloading. Information would be provide to Mr. Fouchier.

Ms. Hert, resident of Lansing in multiple locations over the years, provided her examples of “one side of the street” parking, driveways that are not designed for two cars, and street parking enforcement be eliminated. With this there could be a schedule for snow emergencies and street sweeping. A consideration could be taken by a street by street basis, but in the end her opinion was the parking on the street regulation is cumbersome on the residents.

Council Member Wood noted that there could not be an ordinance that effects or is written differently in the City, it will need to be uniform.

Mr. Strauser, a resident on Dunlap noted this area has signage that states “no parking” on the north side, and on the south side “no parking 7am – 10 p.m.” When they have issues on parking, they call the LPD and no enforcement unless the meter maid parking enforcement comes there.

Mr. Rawl, resident on Shiawassee provided her opinion that doing away with the ordinance will cause issues with the neighbors and not share the road, and against any change.

Ms. Bayers, resident on Kerry Street, asked for a consideration for seasonal parking enforcement, but did not support year round prohibition. Council Member Wood noted to Ms. Bayers that there is already an ordinance that prohibits recreational vehicles to be parked on the street, and will send her the ordinance.

Ms. Gleason, resident on East Malcom X, voiced her comments on the differences in enforcement and width of streets. She noted she understood the uniformity of the ordinance, but questioned since each neighborhood is different. One suggestion she made was a neighborhood sticker that would permit the resident to be in front in their own home, with clarification for wards or districts. Another suggestion would be a phrase in the ordinance that would state this is in effect “unless as posted”.

Mr. Edick, resident at W Moreland and Willow, noting Willow has no parking. His concern was parking for multiple days on the street, and his experience with enforcement. His opinion with the enforcement of the 2am – 5am parking, requires the owner to find a place to park on their property. In conclusion, Mr. Edick asked the Committee to keep the rule, agreed with the permitting for special circumstances with a 30 day maximum.

Ms. Allen – supported the removal of the 2am- 5am parking on the streets, because the neighborhoods have narrow driveways, shared driveways and currently in her neighborhood there is day time street parking.

Beth, new resident in Lansing, and understands the need to be consistent in the City, but points out there is ample parking downtown on the streets.

Mr. Rawl, resident on W. Shiawassee, and his experience is in their neighborhood there are long driveways and not a need or street parking. Mr. Rawl asked if the developer is responsible to provide parking, and if not the City should require them to.

Mr. Retzloff, a resident on Drexal and has a shared drive. Mr. Retzloff was interested in what other cities do with this issue, because in his opinion if there is a one size fits all, even though every neighborhood is different, there needs to be better information.

Mr. Bouck noted his opinion that ordinance should stay intact because it is a safety issue, it is an aesthetic issue, and provided examples of street parking because residents don't want to take the time to pull them in the driveway. Mr. Bouck provided options for consideration parking for visitors, children who come home on the weekends, and build in regulations for certain circumstances.

Mr. Edick spoke again and suggested signage for designations.

Ms. Allen spoke about the early comment on a safety concern, stating she does not believe there is a safety issue.

Mr. Bouck clarified that by taking the ordinance out, they will park 24 hours a day because there is no reason to remove it.

Council Member Garza noted to the public that in some areas, the streets are so narrow that emergency vehicles cannot get down the street.

Ms. Herd voiced an opinion on queitons why remove 2-5 when can park during the day, and had no concerns with street parking.

Council Member Wood acknowledged all the comments and clarified that they will take all comments and suggestions from all the meetings and draft something that attempts to meet the needs of the community. Noted in all the meetings, she stated, all comments reflected the need for enforcement.

Mr. Retzloff asked what the time table will be. Council Member Wood stated in July their Committee meeting will include Mr. Kilpatrick to attend to provide information on the streets currently with the signs, the LFD for their input for their emergency vehicles. The Administration will be involved so that there is some type of enforcement.

Mr. Bouck asked the Committee to also consider vehicles parked over the sidewalks.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Submitted by

Sherrie Boak, Council Office Manager, Lansing City Council

Approved: June 27, 2018