

Meeting Minutes
Farmington Parking Advisory Committee
October 21, 2020

Attendees

Kenneth Crutcher <crutcherk@crutcherstudio.com>,
David Murphy <DMurphy@farmgov.com>,
Frank Demers <FDemers@farmgov.com>
Chris Halas <ch.halas@gmail.com>,
Joe Mantey <cheeseladyfarmington@gmail.com>
Rachel Gallagher <rachelegallagher@aol.com>
Maria Taylor <MTaylor@farmgov.com>

Agenda

1. Roll call - 7:00 p.m.
2. Approval of the agenda -

Crutcher made a motion to approve. Taylor supported. All were in favor. — Approved

3. Approval of the September 2020 Parking Advisory Committee Minutes

Crutcher discovered that the September 2020 minutes were not included in the packet. Committee agreed that approval would be postponed until the November meeting. September minutes will need to be included in that meeting's packet.

4. Public Comment

No public comments

5. Public Safety Update

Chief Demers shared his latest report. It indicated that citations were down overall, specifically in the South lot. He mentioned that this was particularly noteworthy because the enforcement officer was working a full shift.

Chief Demers also shared security camera photos of the South lot. Over the course of several days, these photos indicate that there is light usage during the week in the South lot adjacent to Farmington Insurance. The photos show that Saturday and Sunday comprised the the highest usage.

In summary, Chief Demers said that Farmington continues to enjoy an atmosphere of compliance. The numbers of citations remain very small. The exact numbers are included in Chief Demers' report which is available in the office of public safety.

6. City Council Work Plan

Village Shoe-Inn redevelopment. A council representative will contact owner. Murphy will update committee once details are available.

7. EV Charger Location -

Murphy shared possible locations for EV charging stations. The optimal locations were chosen based on their proximity to electricity sources and business mix. The committee generally opposed locations that would be disruptive to Starbucks and the Farmers Market. So far, the preferred locations are Oakland Street and Grove Street across from the old Dress Barn.

For next steps, Murphy said he needs to look into the grant process and then put the project out to bid. A map of the proposed locations are available in the City Manager's office.

8. Discussion on Developers who Lack Parking Spaces

The committee reviewed the City of Northville's ordinance in which businesses can contribute to a parking fund in lieu of creating small private lots.

Manty provided a cogent economic analysis in which he explained why Farmington has little motivation to enact such an ordinance until the Maxfield center is sold. Prior to that, and possibly after, such an ordinance could be to the detriment of the city. Furthermore, during the current pandemic, he suggested this should not be one of the city's top priorities.

There was a lot of discussion on this topic. The committee generally agreed that more information was needed to thoroughly consider the potential application of such an ordinance to the city of Farmington. To that end, David Murphy is going to contact OHM and the Farmington tax assessor. To explore yet another resource, Joe Manty is going to do additional research in the book, "The high cost of free parking"

by Donald Shoup.

Crutcher also suggested exploring the possibility of adding an additional tax to businesses who do not allow the public to use their lots. Murphy said he would consult the city attorney about the legality of that potential plan.

9. Future items for discussion

Halas suggested the committee do all that is possible to expedite the installation of EV charging stations.

Taylor would like to discuss the possibility of adding meters to private lots to enable business owners to monetize their parking lots in the evenings.

10 committee comments

Taylor mentioned that new wayfinding signage may be funded by the new capital improvement plan.

Gallagher suggested taking down signs in areas that are not enforced.

Murphy apprised the committee that Joe Mosey, resident on Farmington Road, is upset about the city's new agreement to increase public use of the Salem Church parking lot.

Crutcher suggested that we may want to consult the city attorney about the legality of the new agreement should Mr. Mosey challenge the city on the new usage.

11. Adjournment 8:02