

PARKING & TRAFFIC COMMITTEE

August 18, 2014

A meeting of the Parking & Traffic Committee was called to order at 3:30 p.m. by Chairperson Schlicht in Council Chambers, City Hall, 421 Michigan Street.

Members Bob Schlicht, Ron Vandertie and Ed Ireland were present. Also present: City Administrator Steve McNeil, Police Chief Arleigh Porter, City Engineer Tony Depies, and Municipal Services Secretary Colleen DeGrave.

Moved by Ald. Vandertie, seconded by Ald. Ireland to adopt the following agenda:

1. Roll call.
2. Adoption of agenda.
3. Approval of minutes from 6/23/2014.
4. Consideration of: Handicap Parking on Madison Avenue.
5. Adjourn.

All in favor. Carried.

Moved by Ald. Vandertie, seconded by Ald. Ireland to approve the minutes from 6/23/2014. Carried.

Consideration of: Handicap parking on Madison Avenue.

Mr. Depies informed the committee that handicap parking is not required on the street like it is in parking lots. He stated he believed the best location would be south of Maple Street on Madison Avenue, on the west side of the road. The second option would be on the east side of Madison Avenue north of the alley. Chief Porter explained the west side businesses were contacted by a CSO officer for their input on the current parking situation, as well as their thoughts on the possible handicap parking space. Chief Porter also gave a third option in front of the Rich Price Insurance building at 44 S. Madison Avenue. He said he had spoken with the owner Rich Price, and Mr. Price was in favor of handicap parking in front of his business. Chief Porter said there was a fourth option as well, in front of the old Oak Street Deli that would have little impact on anything else. Ald. Schlicht inquired whether there was currently any handicap parking on Oak Street, and it was stated that the parking lot in back of Sonny's Pizza has handicap parking as well as the parking lot at the Opera House Restaurant on Oak Street.

Mark Schuster, 1247 N. 8th Avenue and owner of Bayshore Outfitters was present and spoke. His concern was the parking that has already been lost at the corner of Maple Street & Madison Avenue and thought Oak Street was the best option.

Jack Money Penny, 461 N. 17th Drive was present and spoke. He stated his business, as well as other businesses on Madison Avenue have had customers concerned about the current lack of handicap parking.

Sue Neumann, 2084 S. Lake Michigan Drive and owner of Alley Katz was present and spoke. She stated she would be in favor of one handicapped parking space and would prefer that it be placed on Oak Street or in front of the Price insurance building.

Motion by Ald. Vandertie to place a handicap parking space at the corner of Oak Street and Madison Avenue. Motion withdrawn.

Ald. Vandertie stated he would like to see the handicap parking placed on a side street. Ald. Ireland agreed and stated in front of the Price building would be a viable option as well.

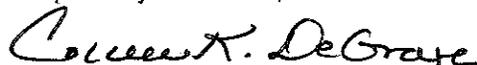
Motion by Ald. Vandertie, seconded by Ald. Ireland, to postpone placing handicap parking until the construction schedule for E. Oak Street is reviewed in 2015.

Kay Seitz, owner of Northern Territory was present and spoke. She suggested a sign showing handicap parking located off of Madison Avenue as another option. Mr. Depies stated the construction for E. Oak Street is on schedule for 2015.

Motion by Ald. Ireland, seconded by Ald. Vandertie to adjourn. All in favor. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 4:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,



Colleen K. DeGrave
Municipal Services Secretary