



City of Duluth

411 West First Street
Duluth, Minnesota 55802

Minutes

Parking Commission.

Friday, January 3, 2020

7:30 AM

Council Chambers, 3rd Floor, City Hall

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commission Vice President Jessica Sterle motioned that the December 2019 parking commission meeting minutes be approved as presented. Commissioner Dennis Jensen seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0.

ON-STREET ADA PARKING ZONE REQUEST

Mr. Bauer presented an on-street ADA parking zone requests for approval. He stated that he had visited the site and that he recommended the request for approval. Commissioner Noland Makowsky motioned that the request, for 15 St. Louis Court, be approved. Commission Jensen seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0.

PROPOSAL TO CREATE A TEN-MINUTE DROP OFF ZONE AT 208 EAST FIRST STREET

Mr. Bauer reintroduced a public proposal to create a ten-minute drop-off zone at 208 East 1st Street, the new location of Juice Pharm. He stated that the request had been generated by the owners of Juice Pharm and that the intent was to provide short-term drop-off parking for their customers. Mr. Bauer stated that the zone would replace the existing parking meter. Commissioner Jensen motioned that the proposal be approved as presented. Commissioner Makowsky seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0.

OFF-STREET PARKING UPDATE

Interstate Parking Company Duluth Operations Manager Doug Melander provided an update on off-street parking operations. He stated that Interstate's subcontracted vendors have been doing a good job clearing snow and ice from parking facilities and lots. He stated that routine structural repairs to the Library/Depot facility were underway and that repairs were planned for Hart District Ramp. Commissioner Sterle inquired whether all of the recently-approved monthly parking stalls at Lot C had been filled. Mr. Melander replied that not all were yet filled. Commissioner Makowsky inquired whether there were any reserved parking stalls in the Duluth Transit Authority-owned Duluth Transit Center. Mr. Melander replied that the ramp does feature such stalls. Mr. Melander stated that monthly occupancy at the DTA facility was full.

ON-STREET PARKING UPDATE

Mr. Bauer provided an update on on-street parking operations. He described the upcoming need of Summit Management's contractor to utilize on-street parking on East 8th Street in relation to the planned construction of a new apartment building at the Bluestone Commons site. He stated that contractors would need to be allowed to park within the two-hour time limit zone on 8th Street, between Clover Street and Wallace Avenue for periods in excess of two hours during the project. Summit Management President Mark Lambert provided further information, describing that 30-40 contractor vehicles would need to utilize the parking until July 2021, when the project completion was projected.

Commissioner Sterle inquired whether the possibility of shuttling the contractors to the site had been explored. Mr. Lambert replied that it had but that the on-street parking need remained. Mr. Lambert stated that he would also explore the possibility of a temporary parking permit of some type that could allow for this parking with the City's engineering division. Mr. Bauer stated that the best option would be to explore a parking permit system to accommodate the need, rather than relaxing or temporarily eliminating the parking time limit. He stated that he would continue to work toward a recommendation and would plan to present it in the next commission meeting.

Mr. Bauer then introduced Cindy Voigt, the City of Duluth Engineer. She provided an update on options to address the water/ice runoff issue on 2nd Avenue West, between 7th Street and the alley up the hill that had been discussed in the previous parking commission meeting. She stated that the best option would be to redevelop the avenue with a curb-and-gutter system but that this may not happen soon, due to funding.

Mr. Bauer then presented a proposal to adjust the total public parking loss on East 2nd Street, related to the upcoming St. Luke's redevelopment project, from the previously-approved 47 spaces to 34 spaces. He stated that St. Luke's and their contracted designer had altered their design to allow the public spaces to remain on the lower side of the 900 East block. Commissioner Sterle inquired whether there would be any further changes proposed in the future. Mr. Bauer stated that he had been told by the City's planning and engineering division that this was the final version of the design. Commissioner Jensen stated that it appeared to be an easy decision to approve the changes. Commissioner Makowsky indicated that he would prefer that the item be tabled until the following meeting to allow the commissioners not in attendance at the current meeting the opportunity to vote. Commissioner Jensen motioned that the item be tabled until the February meeting. Commissioner Makowsky seconded the motion, which was approved 4-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no additional public comments.

ADJOURNMENT