

THE PARKING AUTHORITY OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF BLOOMFIELD

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2012

The meeting opened 6:00 pm.

Certification of advertised public notification of the meeting was given during the reading of the Open Public Records Act.

Present: Commissioner McKee
Commissioner Moserowitz
Commissioner Williams
Executive Director Hochman

Others Present: Kevin McManimon, Esq., of McManimon, Scotland & Baumann, L.L.C.
Mayor Ray McCarthy, Township Liaison
Gerry Giosa, Level G Assoc.
John Sessa, C.P.A.
Zoe Toye, Enforcement Supervisor

Absent: Commissioner Chalet
Commissioner Pomares
Mary Murdoch, Bloomfield Center Alliance Liaison

Public: Russ Mollica

No quorum was present at this meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

The topic of issuing permits from the Non-Resident Waiting List was discussed. Gerry Giosa suggested calling to determine the interest first of those on the list and then mailing the permit applications who will purchase them. This will expedite purchasing of the permits.

The Executive Director's Report was given. The cross hatches to be painted in the Pitt St. Lot. Difficulty was experienced by the Director when she requested the Department of Public Works to complete the project. Mayor McCarthy suggested the Authority borrow the equipment and do the painting ourselves.

The Broad St. Meter Expansion status was inquired with the Township Engineer but no response had been received as of yet. The Board present stated it would be best to move forward to acquire all supplies necessary so the Authority can be prepared for the installation when it will be scheduled.

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The complaint by Ms. Pimentel was discussed. Ms. Pimentel had received three tickets for overtime meter parking when she visited the Bloomfield Public Library with her family on separate occasions. She suggested that the Authority should provide free parking for families to visit the Library, especially during the summer. Gerry Giosa suggested three free ten (10) minute parking spaces so someone can return books or get change for the meter. The discussion evolved to budget restrictions when upgrades to the meter parking system are desired.

John Sessa presented the financial reports. Commissioner McKee requested a larger font for the reports to make them easier to read. The present font size was too small to read. Commissioner Moserowitz asked what the Bond Trustee Fee was for. Counsel McManimon explained the responsibilities of the Bond Trustee.

Gerry Giosa, of Level G Assoc., discussed the plans received for the parking garage which included the electrical and plumbing detail. Commissioner Moserowitz questioned what is saved when LED lights are used. Mr. Giosa stated the purchase price is half of other lights which can be expensive. Commissioner Williams stated such things should be cost effective but being 'green' should be considered as well. Mr. Giosa stated such issues will be discussed in the conference call scheduled for the next day with the commissioners.

Commissioner McKee suggested the board should have a work breakdown structure so better tracking of the timetable can be achieved. Mr. Giosa stated the supplied schedule did need more detail. Commissioner Moserowitz questioned if there were any penalties for the work to be late as per the schedule. Counsel stated that there were breach remedies built into the agreement.

Commissioner Williams questioned Mr. Giosa about meters that give change. Her concern was that the parkers would be ticketed if they had to get change first before they could pay the meter. Such as the complaint issued by Ms. Pimentel who received a ticket while going into the Library to get change for the meter. A suggestion was made to have a change machine in the lobby entrance of the Library for patrons who had no change for the meters. The cost of the machine could be split with the Library.

The meeting was opened to the Public. There was no comment. The meeting closed to Public comment.

Commissioner Moserowitz discussed Commissioner Generazio's resignation letter. He stated the letter expressed the reasons for the resignations very well. A discussion ensued concerning a dinner to honor Mr. Generazio's service with an engraved plaque.

A brief discussion about the New Jersey League of Municipalities Convention was held. The New Jersey Parking Institute Convention was canceled for the first time this year.

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Commissioner Moserowitz discussed issues pertaining to enforcement. Commissioner Williams expressed her concerns about how enforcement was performed and the effects it has on the public. Enforcement Supervisor Zoe Toye explained in detail how the Parking Enforcement Officers are trained, what routes they are assigned, the patterns of how they walk those routes, etc.

Ms. Toye further explained the different jurisdictions of parking enforcement between the Traffic Division and the Authority. Mr. Giosa did confirm that all enforcement operations were according to industry standard.

Commissioner Williams expressed her goal to provide safe, orderly parking but balanced with encouraging customers to come to Bloomfield and stay, not be chased away. The discussion continued in detail over issues of courtesy parking, complaints from the public and how those complaints should be handled. Concern was expressed that the Authority has a bad image from the ticketing.

Commissioner Moserowitz did agree that the public relations for the Authority has been neglected and needed to be addressed. Commissioner McKee agreed. More positive information should be placed for the public's knowledge.

Commissioner Williams discussed enforcement during Election Day and her concern that there should be no ticketing near polling places. Ms. Toye did state that the Authority does not enforce near polling places within our jurisdiction but will ensure they will not be near them during this Election Day.

The attendance issue of the board was discussed. With seven member seats established, a quorum required four members. Presently, with only five current members, attendance would have to be ensured. Director Hochman was requested to confirm attendance of all board members for the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.