



## **Parking and Traffic Committee Meeting Minutes**

Date of Meeting: Thursday, January 15, 2015 at 5:15pm, in the Birch Room at City Hall  
Members Present: Abitz{C}, Winters {VC}, Kellbach, Mielke  
Others Present: Lt. Pekarske, Alfonso, Wesolowski, Friday, Deb Ryan

In accordance with Chapter 19, Wisconsin Statutes, notice of this meeting was posted and sent to the Daily Herald in the proper manner. It was noted that there was a quorum present and the meeting was called to order by Chairperson Abitz at 5:20 pm.

### **(1) Minutes of the Prior Meeting – 12/18/2014**

Motion by Kellbach, second by Mielke, to approve the minutes from the December 18, 2014 meeting.

Motion carried 3-0.

### **(2) Discussion item only: Update from Community Development on plans and/or a proposal to address the parking concerns at the Trolley Quarter Flats apartments.**

Discussion:

Because Anne Werth from Community Development was attending a different meeting, Wesolowski presented the proposal from Community Development which is to plow areas surrounding the community gardens parcel to create temporary parking spaces specifically for Trolley Quarter Flats residents. He indicated that these spaces would not be marked or striped initially. If the committee decided to make these spaces permanent then DPW could put in some temporary pavement, signage and striping.

Winters stated that he agreed with the plan but felt that Trolley Quarter Flats should contribute financially in some way. He also suggested that any future permanent parking plan comply with current zoning requirements for this type of property.

Wesolowski said that Anne Werth had already approached Trolley Quarter Flats management about contributing financially and they had agreed to pay a fee per space or contribute to the construction and continued plowing of the spaces. Wesolowski told the committee that if the proposal presented today is acceptable to the members then he would meet with Werth to determine costs and possible fees.

Alfonso noted that whatever reparations are agreed upon with Trolley Quarter Flats will need to be in the form of a written agreement.

Abitz requested that Wesolowski move forward with meeting with Werth and bring the cost and fee estimates to the next meeting.

### **(3) Discussion and possible action: To prohibit all overnight parking on S. 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and S. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Stewart Avenue and Pardee St.**

Discussion:

Because of the absence of UW-Marathon representative Kristine McCaslin the committee decided to table the item until McCaslin is able to attend.

Motion by Mielke, second by Winters to table this item. Motion approved 4-0.

**(4) Discussion and possible action: Consideration of changes to current restrictions and imposition of additional parking restrictions in the 500 and 600 blocks of S. 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and S. 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue.**

Discussion:

Because of the absence of UW-Marathon representative Kristine McCaslin the committee decided to table the item until McCaslin is able to attend.

Motion by Mielke second by Kellbach to table this item. Motion approved 4-0.

**(5) Discussion and possible action: To install stop signs at the intersection of S. 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Callon Street**

Discussion:

Lt. Pekarske stated that stop signs are not indicated at this intersection because of no cross traffic and in the last five years there has only been one traffic accident. The school resource officer and staff from John Muir evaluated the intersection throughout the course of the day and determined that it is busy and congested only during school drop-off and pick-up times. At other times during the day the use is minimal. Installing a stop sign is not indicated or recommended in this situation.

Mielke stated that parents are expressing a concern for their children's safety specifically during drop-off and pick-up times.

Motion by Mielke, second by Kellbach to install stop signs at the intersection of S. 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue and Callon Street.

Motion failed on a tie vote (Mielke and Kellbach for, Winters and Abitz against)

Motion moves on to City Council for consideration.

**(6) Discussion item only: Consider modification to the overnight parking rules during the winter months.**

Discussion:

Lt. Pekarske noted that Mielke has mentioned numerous times his frustration regarding the overnight parking situation in the City. This item was placed on the agenda to determine if the committee would like to move forward with any changes. Lt. Pekarske also stated that Wausau's Overnight Parking Ordinance is similar to other jurisdictions. He suggested that although the permission system does get abused it is necessary to allow overnight street parking for some instances. He suggested to committee members that they should contact the Police Department in cases of clear vehicle abandonment on City streets. Lt. Pekarske suggested that one measure available to the committee would be to increase fines.

Lt. Pekarske offered to compile a comparison of overnight parking ordinances and fine structures of other jurisdictions and present it at the next meeting. The committee agreed.

**(7) Future Agenda Items**

Item #2, #3, #4 and #6 from current agenda

**(5) Communications:**

None

**(6) Adjournment:**

Motion by Kellbach, second by Mielke to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 4-0. Meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Item #2/3



## UW-MC Overview

**Print Date:** 11/13/2014  
**Image Date:** 03/29/2012  
**Level:** Neighborhood

Item #2/3



# UW-MC

**Print Date:** 11/24/2014  
**Image Date:** 03/29/2012  
**Level:** Neighborhood

**Agenda Item No.**

4

**STAFF REPORT TO PARKING AND TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**

**AGENDA ITEM**

Changes to the ordinance restricting overnight parking during the winter months (W.M.C. 10.20.030) and/or changes to the penalty amount for violations of this ordinance (W.M.C. 10.01.080).

**BACKGROUND**

The current overnight parking ordinance prohibits overnight parking from December 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup> and the City has relied on a permission based system to accommodate overnight parking needs. From April 1<sup>st</sup> through November 30<sup>th</sup>, the City uses an odd/even, alternate side parking system.

The current ordinance used in winter has resulted in the following common complaints/concerns:

- Problems for residents and visitors who are not familiar with the seasonal changes
- Causes frustrations for residents when vehicles are parked for extended periods on both sides of the road and snow removal operations on their road are impacted
- Residents not understanding why some vehicles are ticketed and some are not (as a result of the permission system)
- Inefficiencies with administration and enforcement
- Abuse of the permission system
- Creates difficulty for plowing and snow removal operations due to vehicles being parked on both sides of the road and, at times, not being moved for multiple days.

The current fine amount for an overnight parking citation is \$25.00

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Fiscal impact of the suggested change would be minimal and would include updating the overnight parking ordinance signs at the main entrances to the city (State and County highways and major connecting roads).

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Upon reviewing other municipalities throughout the state (see attached summary document), it was found that many other, similar sized and larger, municipalities utilize an odd/even parking system during the winter months. While other methods are also used, the odd/even parking during the winter months prevailed as the most common type of overnight parking guideline for winter parking. The permission based system was not widely used.

Based upon staff discussions, personal experiences and observations, as well as a review of municipalities throughout the state, my staff recommendation is to modify the overnight parking ordinance to an odd/even system all year round.

Moving to an odd/even system during the winter months would provide the following benefits:

- Consistency with our overnight parking ordinance, year-round – eliminating some confusion for residents and visitors
- It will still allow overnight street parking accommodations for those who need them

**Agenda Item No.**

4

**STAFF REPORT TO PARKING AND TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**

- Aid in streamlining enforcement efforts - as the odd/even parking system is much easier to administer, monitor, and enforce.
- It would aid in making plowing and snow removal operations more consistent, safe, and efficient (see following comments).
- It would require vehicles to be moved each night, to alternating sides of the street, and would prevent multiple day parking in the same space, which causes snow removal issues.

This staff recommendation has been reviewed with DPW Superintendent Ric Mohelnitzky and has received his approval. Mohelnitzky noted that the current wintertime overnight parking system can make plowing difficult due to vehicles being able to park on both sides of the road and not necessarily having to move on a daily basis. Mohelnitzky felt that the odd/even system would provide some consistency for their operations and aid in making snow plowing and removal operations safer and more efficient.

While the proposed change could be viewed as less restrictive than our current ordinance and could encourage more vehicles to be parked on the street overnight; the current, permission based, system allows anyone to get permission to park overnight and in an uncontrolled and disorganized manner. With varying and competing interests in overnight parking, our solution should strive to meet the needs of our residents and guests as well as accommodate the City's ability to maintain the streets. The proposed odd/even system can be viewed as a reasonable solution that will meet both of those needs and has been effective in many other similar and larger sized municipalities throughout the state.

**Additional items:**

- It is recommended that the ordinance prohibiting overnight parking in the downtown area, year-round, not be changed or modified (W.M.C. 10.20.030(b)).
- The current fine amount of \$25.00 appears to be reasonable and consistent with other municipalities throughout the state and no changes are recommended to the fine amount at this time.
  - An update to our overnight parking ordinance to meet the needs of the City and the community members will aid in increasing the compliance and ease of use for residents and guests and is recommended before considering a punitive, penalty based change to the ordinance.
- The ordinance allowing the declaration of a "snow emergency" (W.M.C. 10.20.040) is not covered by this agenda item and will remain in place and unchanged.

Staff contact: Lieutenant Nathan Pekarske – Police Department – 715-261-7803

**Overnight Parking Regulations - Summary**

<b>Community</b>	<b>Ordinance Details</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Fine Amount</b>
Appleton	Have to call for permission each night		\$25.00
<b>Beloit</b>	<b>Alternate side - All Year</b>		
<b>Eau Claire</b>	<b>Alternate side - Winter Months</b>		\$30.00
<b>Fond du Lac</b>	<b>Alternate side - Winter Months</b>		
Green Bay	By permission only - Limited scope	Limits to how often and how many vehicles	\$20.00
<b>Greenfield</b>	<b>Alternate side - All Year</b>		
<b>Kenosha</b>	<b>Summer - not restricted Winter - alternate side</b>		\$30.00
<b>LaCrosse</b>	<b>Alternate side - Winter Months</b>	Progressive scale for fine amount - based on # of violations	\$10, \$20, \$40
<b>Madison</b>	<b>Alternate side - Winter Months</b>	Other times - subject to signage on the streets	\$20.00
<b>Menomonie</b>	<b>Alternate side - Winter Months</b>		\$15.00
Mequon	No on-street parking - All year		\$25.00
Merrill	No on-street parking - during the winter months		
New Berlin	By permit - All year		\$15.00
Oshkosh	Permits required - All year	Alternate side for short-term permission	\$15.00
<b>Racine</b>	<b>Alternate side - All Year</b>		\$20.00
<b>Sheboygan</b>	<b>Alternate side - Winter Months</b>		
Stevens Point	Have to call for permission each night		\$15.00
<b>Superior</b>	<b>Alternate side calendar system - All Year</b>		\$15.00
Waukesha	By permit - All year		\$20.00
Wausau	Summer - Alternate side Winter - by permission		\$25.00
Wauwatosa	No on-street parking - All year		\$25.00
<b>Wisconsin Rapids</b>	<b>Alternate side - All year</b>		

*Most municipalities also include a snow emergency provision with no on-street parking allowed during declared snow emergencies*

### **10.20.030 – Overnight Parking Ordinance**

**10.20.030** All night parking. (a) No person shall park a vehicle on any street between 2:30 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. from December 1 through March 31. Between the hours of 2:30 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., alternate side parking regulations shall be in effect on all streets in the city from April 1 through November 30, with the exception of paragraph (b). All vehicles shall be parked only on the even-numbered side of the street on even-numbered calendar days, and only on the odd side of the street on odd-numbered calendar days, unless otherwise posted or exempted in this ordinance. No person shall park, stop, or leave standing any vehicle in violation of this subsection.

A street which is divided by a boulevard, median strip, or other separation between the traveled portions of the roadway shall be considered to be one street for the purposes of this ordinance. A street which is a circle or court and is numbered with all odd or all even house numbers shall not be exempt from this ordinance.

(b) Between the hours of 2:30 a.m. and 6:00 a.m., no person shall park a vehicle in an area, including both sides of the streets and bounded on the north by McIndoe Street from its intersection with First and Sixth Streets; on the west by First Street from McIndoe Street to Forest Street; on the south by Forest Street from First Street to Sixth Street; and on the east by Sixth Street from Forest Street to McIndoe Street. (Ord. 61-5596 ' 5(part), 2013)

(c) Exceptions. The following streets or portions of streets shall be excepted from the provisions of this ordinance.

(1) Blocks of streets which prohibit parking at all times on one side of said block or street and which permit parking of any status on the other side of said block or street.

"Block" shall mean that portion of a street between two intersecting streets. For purposes of this section, an intersecting street includes both a street which fully intersects the street in question, and a street which begins or terminates at the street in question.

(2) Those areas where parking is prohibited during a snow removal emergency pursuant to 10.20.040.

(d) The forfeiture for a violation of this section shall be twenty-five dollars

Item #6

Lakeview Court at Mary Street - Facing south, towards Lakeview Drive



To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the "Print" link next to the map.



### Overview Map: Lakeview Court and Mary Street



To see all the details that are visible on the screen, use the "Print" link next to the map.



Item #6



## Lakeview Court at Mary Street

**Print Date:** 01/16/2015  
**Image Date:** 03/29/2012  
**Level:** Neighborhood