Transportation Committee - Board of Representatives



David Watkins, Chair

Mavina Moore, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Thursday, July 23, 2020

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Place: Meeting was held remotely

The Transportation Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Watkins, Vice Chair Moore and Committee Member Reps. Curtis, Di Costanzo, Giordano, Michelson, Patterson and Wallace. Excused was Committee Member Rep. Pendell. Also present were Reps. Adams, Figueroa, Matherne and McMullen; and Frank Petise and Luke Buttenwieser, Transportation, Traffic and Parking Bureau, and approximately 20 members of the public.

Chair Watkins called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

The public hearings on the 3 items were held simultaneously.

Jill Luciani spoke in support of changes to the Residential Parking Program. Barbara Brennan's comments regarding needing to end parking on the streets near the beaches were read into the record.

Laurie Doig spoke in opposition to the Residential Parking Program Susan Halpern spoke in opposition to the changes regarding crosswalks and the loss of parking spaces.

Lisa Butler spoke in support of changes to the Residential Parking Program. Carmine Tomas spoke in opposition to the changes regarding crosswalks and the loss of parking spaces.

Eamir O'Neill spoke about needing to create a solution for Brennan's Restaurant Jennifer Bramlette spoke in support of the Residential Parking Program changes Elizabeth McCauley spoke in opposition to the changes regarding crosswalks and the loss of parking spaces.

Jenna Galise spoke in opposition to the Residential Parking Program
The Reverend Doctor Dawn C. Snell spoke in opposition to the changes regarding crosswalks.

There being no further speakers, Chair Watkins closed the public hearing.

1. T30.052

ORDINANCE for public hearing and final adoption;
Amending Article III (Residential Parking Program) Section 231-36 (Technical Evaluation Criteria) of the Code of Ordinances to Add Sub-Section (I) New Residential Permit Program Zones 06/02/20 – Submitted by Bureau Chief Travers 06/18/20 – Approved by Committee 9-0-0

Committee members discussed this item with Mr. Petise. Items discussed included the following:

- Since May, of, 77% of the violations issued to in-state plates have been paid and 70% of the violations issued to out-of-state plates have been paid
- The need for a petition should be waived around train stations
- This change only waives the requirement for the study if there is a petition for a seasonal RPP within 1/3 of a mile of a beach or park
- The TPP bureau will review the parking at the time period specified in the application, if the application is only for an RPP for certain times, or will review the parking at multiple times and days over the course of a week or two
- The TPP will base the number of passes per household on the curb length, availability of parking and number of households
- The plan is to work with Brennan's to ensure there is parking
- There will be no RPP on a street where it is not needed or residents don't want it
- The amendment is only for a seasonal RPP
- The ordinance already has a carve-out for commercial entities
- There would still need to be a public hearing
- Currently there is no request for an RPP near a train station; this might need to be addressed at a different time

A motion to approve Item No. 1 was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 5-2-1 (Reps. Watkins, Curtis, Di Costanzo, Giordano and Michelson in favor; Reps. Patterson and Wallace opposed; Rep. Moore abstaining)

2. T30.051 ORDINANCE for public hearing and final adoption; Amending Chapter 231 (Vehicles and Traffic) Section 231-6 (Prohibited Stopping, Standing or Parking) of the Code of Ordinances.

06/02/20 - Submitted by Mayor Martin 06/18/20 - Approved by Committee 9-0-0

Committee members discussed this item with Mr. Petise. Items discussed included the following:

- The current ordinance already prohibits parking within 25 feet of a crosswalk within an intersection; this increases the fine
- State law prohibits parking within 25 feet of a marked crosswalk within an intersection
- This change defines a crosswalk as any marked crosswalk, whether or not in an intersection; this change is suggested for safety reasons due to line of sight a pedestrian is less visible with a car parked and may step out into traffic to see if crossing is safe
- Parking within 25 feet of an intersection is a class III violation
- A violation of the RPP would become a class IV violation

A motion to amend this ordinance to add back "at an intersection" into §2.q was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 7-1-0 (Reps. Watkins, Moore, Curtis, Di Costanzo, Giordano, Michelson and Wallace in favor; Rep. Patterson opposed).

Committee members discussed reviewing other crosswalks after the Committee has discussed Item 4.

Committee members discussed the conflict concerning the RPP in Items No. 2 and 3. A motion to remove references to the RPP in §231-6 was made seconded and approved by a

vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Watkins, Moore, Curtis, Di Costanzo, Giordano, Michelson, Patterson and Wallace in favor).

A motion to approve Item No. 2, as amended, was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Watkins, Moore, Curtis, Di Costanzo, Giordano, Michelson, Patterson and Wallace in favor).

Failed 0-8-0

3. T30.053

ORDINANCE for public hearing and final adoption;
Amending Chapter 231 (Vehicles and Traffic) Section
231-44 (Violations And Penalties) of the Code of
Ordinances.
06/02/20 – Submitted by Mayor Martin
06/18/20 – Approved by Committee, as amended, 9-0-0

Committee members discussed wanting to leave the RPP fine at \$90 rather than increasing it to \$120 by not making any changes to \$231-44 By defeating the proposed changes in Item 3, the fine for an RPP violation would remain at \$90.

A motion to approve Item No. 3, was made, seconded and failed by a vote of 0-8-0 (Reps. Watkins, Moore, Curtis, Di Costanzo, Giordano, Michelson, Patterson and Wallace opposed).

4. T30.054 REVIEW; Process of Determining Need for, and Locations **HELD** of, Pedestrian Crosswalks in the City of Stamford.

07/08/20 – Submitted by Rep. Adams and Watkins

Chair Watkins adjourned the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, David Watkins, Chair

This meeting is on video