

## **PARKING & TRAFFIC COMMITTEE**

**May 26, 2020**

A meeting of the Parking & Traffic Committee was called to order at 4:36 p.m. by Chairperson Reeths in Council Chambers, City Hall, 421 Michigan Street.

Members Kirsten Reeths, Gary Nault and Spencer Gustafson were present. Also present: Police Chief Arleigh Porter, Municipal Services Director Mike Barker, City Administrator Josh VanLieshout, Community Development Director Marty Olejniczak, Police Captain Dan Brinkman, Fire Chief Tim Dietman, Fire Assistant Kalin Montevideo, and Municipal Services Assistant Colleen DeGrave.

Moved by Ald. Nault, seconded by Ald. Gustafson to adopt the following agenda:

- 1. Roll call.**
- 2. Adoption of agenda.**
- 3. Approval of minutes from 1/27/2020.**
- 4. Public comment.**
- 5. Discussion of: Agenda items from January meeting**
- 6. Consideration of: Parklet Pilot Program**
- 7. Consideration of: Street closure for 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. from Michigan St. to Jefferson St.**
- 8. Consideration of: On street handicapped parking spaces for Nicolet Bank and Martin Park**
- 9. Adjourn.**

All in favor. Carried.

Moved by Ald. Gustafson, seconded by Ald. Nault, to approve the amended minutes from 1/27/2020. Carried.

### **Public comment.**

The following spoke during public comment: David Hayes, 111 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave., Ken Glasheen, 920 Michigan St., Pam Seiler of Destination Sturgeon Bay, Phil Rockwell, 147 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Sherry Schultz, 159 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., George Draeb, 50 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., and Reagan Smoker, 336 Louisiana St.

### **Discussion of: Agenda items from January meeting**

#### **Consideration of: Parklet Pilot Program**

Chris Sullivan-Robinson stated the purpose of the Parklet Pilot program would be to help businesses. He explained the steps that would be involved in creating parklets. He said the first step would be community support, after which, there is an application and permit fee, design plans and a hold harmless agreement. Construction would be overseen by Municipal Services, and finally maintenance and removal at the end of the duration of the parklet season. Mr. Olejniczak added the program is not just drafted for 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., and that parklets could be done with or without the streets open. He said retailers could use it for extra space as well as restaurants. Ald. Nault reported that he had taken a walk down 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. and talked with many shop and restaurant owners, and many of them felt parking was already an issue and would be made worse by adding parklets. Ald. Gustafson stated that the Café Permits should be expanded to better utilize the sidewalk. The parklet program needs more review and would be better allowed on a case by case basis. Police Chief Porter and Fire Chief Dietman explained that there are safety concerns and this program could have unintended consequences. Parklets should be used only to divert pedestrians off the existing sidewalk.

Moved by Ald. Reeths, seconded by Ald. Nault to send the agenda item to the Community Protection & Services Committee. All in favor. Carried.

#### **Consideration of: Street closure for 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. from Michigan St. to Jefferson St.**

Discussion took place on whether to close 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. to through traffic, to create more leisure space downtown and encourage more pedestrian traffic. A few drawbacks discussed were whether that would create additional labor on weekends from Municipal Services and additional police monitoring. There were also concerns about increased pedestrian/vehicular conflicts.

Moved by Ald. Reeths, seconded by Ald. Gustafson to send the agenda item to the Community Protection & Services Committee. All in favor. Carried.

**Consideration of: On street handicapped parking spaces for Nicolet Bank and Martin Park**

Discussion took place on whether to place more handicapped parking at both Nicolet Bank and Martin Park. It was stated that Nicolet Bank has its own handicapped parking stalls off street, but they are distant from the entrance. Mr. Barker requested Nicolet Bank be responsible for cleaning the side ramp entrances during a snow event. More discussion took place on a location for a handicapped parking space at Martin Park.

Moved by Ald. Nault, seconded by Ald. Gustafson to place a handicap parking stall on the north side of 4<sup>th</sup> Ave as presented by the Zoning Administrator with the condition that Nicolet Bank be responsible for snow removal for the handicap space. All in favor. Carried.

Moved by Ald. Nault, seconded by Ald. Gustafson to place a handicap parking stall on the north side of Pennsylvania St with the approval of the City Engineer.

Meeting adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen DeGrave  
Municipal Services Assistant