Transportation Committee - Board of Representatives

Steven Kolenberg, Chair   Bradley Michelson, Vice Chair

Committee Report

Date: Thursday, May 2, 2019
Time: 7:00 p.m.
Place: Legislative Chambers, 4th Floor, Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard

The Transportation Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Kolenberg, Vice Chair Michaelson, and Committee Member Reps. Di Costanzo, Giordano, Moore, Patterson, Pendell, Spadaccini and Wallace. Also present were Reps. Adams, Fedeli, McMullen and Sherwood. Also present were Jim Travers and Luke Buttenwieser, Traffic, Transportation and Parking; Frank Fedeli, Operations; and several members of the public (see the public hearing sign-in sheet).

Chair Kolenberg called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

Chair Kolenberg opened the public hearings on all three items:

Richard Fiore spoke in opposition to the increase of the parking pass fees at Springdale lots.
Shelley Michelson spoke in opposition to the increases at the Springdale and Glenbrook lots.
Michael Valentine spoke in opposition to the increase of the on-street meter fees and enforcement hours
Cindy Demetros spoke in opposition to the increases at the Springdale and Glenbrook lots.
Melissa Fiore spoke in opposition to the increase of the parking pass fees at Springdale lots and turning the spaces over to daily users.

Item No.	Description	Committee Action
1. T30.028	RESOLUTION <u>and public hearing</u>; Confirming and Establishing Hours of Enforcement and Fees for On-Street Parking Meters. 12/05/18 – Submitted by Bureau Chief Travers 12/20/18 – Approved by Committee, as amended, 7-0-1 01/07/19 – Held by Full Board 01/14/19 – Moved to Pending 02/21/19 – Held by Committee 6-0-0 **03/21/19 – Approved, as amended, 5-0-0**	Approved 9-0-0

Mr. Travers reviewed the current proposal with the members: changing the enforcement hours to 8 am to 8 pm and changing the meter bag fees and discussed the changes with the Committee members:

- The downtown parking rate has not been increased in 15 years
- New meter technology will allow people to pay be cell phone

- The current meter bag charges do not cover the hours of meter operation and it is a labor intensive process; this will simplify the process

A motion to approve this resolution was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 9-0-0 (Reps. Kolenberg, Michaelson, Di Costanzo, Giordano, Moore, Patterson, Pendell, Spadaccini and Wallace in favor).

2. T30.029	RESOLUTION and public hearing; Confirming and Establishing Hours of Enforcement and Fees for City-Owned Garages and Parking Lots (Excluding Commuter Lots).	Approved as amended, 8-0-0

2. T30.029   RESOLUTION and public hearing; Confirming and   Approved as
              Establishing Hours of Enforcement and Fees for City-   amended, 8-0-0
              Owned Garages and Parking Lots (Excluding Commuter
              Lots).
              12/05/18 – Submitted by Bureau Chief Travers
              12/20/18 – Approved by Committee 7-0-0
              01/07/19 – Held by Full Board
              01/14/19 – Moved to Pending
              02/21/19 – Held by Committee 6-0-0
              03/21/19 – Approved, as amended, 5-0-0

Mr. Travers reviewed the current proposal with the members: changing the enforcement hours to 8 am to 8 pm and 8 am on Saturdays; and increasing the Summer Place Garage monthly rental charges; there is no increase to the garage fee. He discussed the changes with the Committee members:
- Parking revenue goes into the parking fund, from which it can be used for capital improvements in the garages

Rep. Pendell made a motion to increase the $70 downtown resident permit to $90 and the $60 roof permit to $80, which motion did not receive a second.

A motion to approve this resolution was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-0-0 (Reps. Michaelson, Di Costanzo, Giordano, Moore, Patterson, Pendell, Spadaccini and Wallace in favor).

3. T30.030   RESOLUTION and public hearing; Confirming and   J. Travers
              Establishing Hours of Enforcement and Fees for City-
              Owned Commuter Parking Lots.
              12/05/18 – Submitted by Bureau Chief Travers
              12/20/18 – Approved by Committee, as amended, 7-1-0
              01/07/19 – Held by Full Board
              01/14/19 – Moved to Pending
              02/21/19 – Held by Committee 6-0-0
              03/21/19 – Approved, as amended, 5-0-0

Mr. Travers reviewed the current proposal with the members: increasing the resident monthly pass from $45 to $60, the non-resident pass from $90 to $120 and increasing the daily rate from $3 to $5. Permit spaces will be available after 10:00 a.m. Summer Place Garage monthly rental charges; there is no increase to the garage fee.

Committee members discussed:
- Whether the proposed increase is too large
- Whether opening up monthly spaces will deprive monthly holders of a place to park
- Whether this should wait until after the transit study

- Whether this will encourage people to give up their monthly passes if they don't use them
- Whether these fees are too high in relation to neighboring towns

A motion to amend the maximum rate to $4.00 was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-1-0 (Reps. Kolenberg, Michaelson, Di Costanzo, Giordano, Moore, Pendell, Spadaccini and Wallace in favor; Rep. Patterson opposed).

A motion to approve the resolution, as amended, was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 8-1-0 (Reps. Michaelson, Di Costanzo, Giordano, Moore, Patterson, Pendell, Spadaccini and Wallace in favor; Rep. Kolenberg opposed).

4. T30.033   REVIEW; Comprehensive Review of Parking Ticket   Report Made &
                Appeal Process.   Held
                02/27/19 – Submitted by Rep. Kolenberg
                03/21/19 – Held by Committee

The Committee discussed this item with Mr. Fedeli:
- The process is mandated by State statute and Code Section 231
- A person has 30 days to pay or appeal a ticket
- There is then an administrative appeal which leads to a dismissal of the ticket or denial
- a denial of that appeal can then be followed by a formal hearing in front of hearing officers appointed by the Mayor
- A denial at a formal hearing can be pursued in Court
- He will provide members with a menu of recent appeals

5. T30.035   REVIEW; Parking Issues in the South End of Stamford.   Held
                04/03/19 – Submitted by Rep. Kolenberg

Chair Kolenberg adjourned the meeting at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Steven Kolenberg, Chair

This meeting is on video.