



## ***Transportation Committee - Board of Representatives***

Steven Kolenberg, Chair

Bradley Michelson, Vice Chair

# **Committee Report**

**Date:** Thursday, August 22, 2019

**Time:** 7:00 p.m.

**Place:** Republican Caucus Room, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Government Center, 888 Washington Boulevard

The Transportation Committee met as indicated above. In attendance were Chair Kolenberg and Committee Member Reps. Di Costanzo, Giordano, Patterson, Pendell, Spadaccini and Wallace. Also present were Reps. Adams, Mahoney, McGarry, Morson, Sherwood, Watkins and Zelinsky; Peter Gould, Park Police; Captain Tom Lombardo, Stamford Police Department; David Winston, Parks & Recreation Commission, Jim Travers and Frank Petise, Traffic, Transportation and Parking Bureau; Frank Fedeli, Citizens Services; Kathryn Emmett and Chris Dellaselva, Legal Department; Ted Ferrarone, BLT and approximately 10 members of the public.

Chair Kolenberg called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Committee Action</b>
1. <a href="#">T30.039</a>	APPROVAL; Agreement with Passport Labs, Inc. for Parking Ticket, Permit and Civil Citation Management Services. 06/27/19 – Submitted by Mayor Martin 07/11/19 – Approved by Board of Finance, as amended <b>07/25/19 – Approved by Committee 5-0-0</b> <b>08/05/19 – Held by Full Board</b>	<b>Approved 6-0-0</b>

Mr. Travers explained that this RFP process was begun last August because the contract was expiring and the City was not getting the best value from the existing product – the technology was dated. At the same time, traffic meters were reaching the end of their lives. This new technology will enable residents to purchase passes on line and eliminate the cash only payment for passes at the beach. The existing contract has been extended until this one can be signed.

Mr. Gould explained that he agrees technological changes are needed. He is concerned that there are no plans to provide enforcement capabilities to park police, which may become more difficult without evidence of a permit purchase, such as a window decal. The new software must be able to address the different permit types, including sports area permits. The City must come up with a way to address overcrowding if there is no longer going to be an attendant.

Mr. Travers stated they are aware of the multiple passes, but can't build the system to address all of this until the contract is signed. The park police will have hand held units available to read license plates. There will also be printers in all police cars this fall, making

the system to all police card. The current system is confusing to residents. On the days that the parks are historically crowded, they can add on-call services from LAZ parking.

Mr. Fedeli noted that there are no internal/external controls when cash is in a remote location, such as at the beach.

Mr. Winston stated that the Parks & Rec Commission got an update on this from Laurie Albano. The concerns expressed included the multiple types of use, the possible need for a person to monitor lots on weekends and the bad cellphone service at Cove Island.

Ms. Emmett stated that the Labor Unions have expressed concerns to Board members about this contract but have not expressed concerns to either the Law Department or the HR Department, which are the appropriate places to resolve labor issues.

Committee members and other Board members discussed the proposed agreement with the invited guests:

- This system will address many different issues; the committee was not trying to address specific park issues
- This will free up resources for other violations and will benefit residents
- Officers will be able to access this information prior to the system being rolled out because they will be getting printers in their vehicles this fall
- Committee members were unaware that officers were going to have handheld devices
- The residential parking permit program is also part of this process
- The person in the hut is not responsible for enforcement; they are employees of the contractor
- The officers will know when a game ends and make a decision about whether or not there is a violation of a sports pass, as they do now
- Every event will have a different code
- Parking enforcement is not legally able to get police information
- Beach sticker sales slow down after July 4<sup>th</sup>; this will enable more robust online sales
- The city already uses a Parkmobile app, which can be integrated with this service
- Passport has provided a letter that they do not earn any revenue and will not sell personally identifiable data, which will be appended to the contract
- This will enable the City to offer residents more services
- When the plate is scanned, the officer will be able to see which permits are associated with the plate; temporary codes will expire
- The City can predict the days on which there is an overflow problem and have someone on call to address those days
- The contract has a 3 year term with 2 1-year renewals
- The only upfront fee is \$24,000 set up. The City already owns the LPRs.
- They should come back to the Transportation and Parks & Recreation Committees once the system is finalized and before it is launched
- The City can use beach permits for a transition year and then revisit their use in a year

A motion to approve Item No. 1 was made, seconded and approved by a vote of 6-0-0 (Reps. Kolenberg, Di Costanzo, Giordano, Patterson, Spadaccini and Wallace in favor).

The Committee took a 5 minute recess at 9:17 p.m.

3. T30.035      REVIEW; Parking Issues in the South End of Stamford.      **Report Made**  
04/03/19 – Submitted by Rep. Kolenberg  
05/02/19 – Held by Committee  
05/13/19 – Moved to Pending  
06/20/19 – Held in Committee  
07/18/19 – Moved to Pending

The Committee next considered item No. 3.

Chair Kolenberg explained that this was a chance to review the increase of parking needs due to the development of the South End.

Mr. Travers stated that the parking needs are always reviewed in connection with any development and the Land Use Department is conducting a traffic study. He believes that there should be metered parking near local businesses in order to keep turnover. There needs to be more study of the overflow parking from the train station. People park on the street for convenience and also to avoid paying. The City Engineer is the person that accepts the roads under the Charter.

Mr. Ferrarone stated all of the streets that preexisted the development in the South End remained public roads; roads built through the TIF are technically owned by the planned community but were built to City standards and have been accepted by the City, which maintains them under a maintenance agreement, as are the roads in Commons Park. The roads in “p-box” down by the waterfront are not yet finished and will be turned over the City when they are finished; that is a small handful of roads.

The placement of additional meters goes through the Traffic Advisory Committee

2. T30.033      REVIEW; Comprehensive Review of Parking Ticket      **Report Made**  
Appeal Process.  
02/27/19 – Submitted by Rep. Kolenberg  
03/21/19 – Held by Committee  
05/02/19 – Report Made & Held  
05/23/19 – Held in Committee  
06/20/19 – Held in Committee  
**07/25/19 – Held by Committee 5-0-0**

Mr. Fedeli reviewed the [attached handout](#) with the Committee. He stated that in the last 5 fiscal years, which is the issuance of approximately 360,000 tickets, when the appeals process went over to the outside vendor, several appeals were missed. They are down to 788 appeals. They had fallen behind due to all the permitting during the summer. They have reduced the number of acceptable reasons for an appeal.

Chair Kolenberg adjourned the meeting at 10:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steve Kolenberg, Chair

This meeting is on Video ([Pt.1](#) & [Pt.2](#))