



Vehicle Parking District Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 7, 2018

The Vehicle Parking District committee met in the Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce board room, 609 W. Norfolk Ave, Norfolk, NE on Wednesday, November 7, 2018.

Roll Call:

Board Members Present: *Jessica Gordon, Brandon Doke, Chad Barnhill, Brad Love, James Wapelhorst, Lisa Blackman, Lacey Porn, Connie Geary*

Guests Present: *Doug Stebbing, Lyle Lutt, Stephanie Bates, Catherine Stebbing*

Minutes recorded by: *Jarad Dahlkoetter*

Call to Order:

1. **Welcome** – Geary called the meeting to order at 8:10 am; Notice of the opens meeting act was posted.
2. **Attendance** – Jarad took roll call of attendees.
3. **Approval of minutes** – Gordon moved, seconded by Blackman to approve the minutes from 10.17.18 as printed. Roll call: Ayes: Gordon, Doke, Geary, Blackman, Wapelhorst, Porn, Barnhill and Love. Nays: none. Absent: Carney, McNally, Stappert. Motion carried.

Regular Agenda

1. **Continued discussion on potential changes to the parking policy & tags** Geary recapped the ideas brought forward from Catherine Stebbing, Russ Wilcox, Doug Stebbing, & Jared Faltys. Wapelhorst presented his notes from the previous meeting with three options for new parking plans. Option 1: parking tag for residents and employees that is lot specific. Option 2: a parking tag for residents and employees that can be used universally throughout the district. Option 3: Two parking tags, one for residential and one for employees that are lot specific. Gordon said she prefers option 2. Doke said he agrees but maybe the board should take a small step by starting with option 2 and seeing how it goes. Geary suggested the group address the issues that are not working and not try to overhaul the full system. The main issues are snow removal and residential parking. Blackman said that it is important to make the system easy to understand and it is too confusing. Doug said the original reason the parking plan was initiated was to get employees and residents off the main streets, so customers could park there. Barnhill asked what would happen to the snow removal plan if changes were made. Doke said they usually just skip around cars. Geary asked how this is enforced if certain cars are not supposed to be in the lot during snow removal. Gordon said we could solve this problem by only designating outer stalls for parking when it snows. Doug suggested that sometimes it snows in the middle of the night so that would be hard to enforce. Wapelhorst said that after hearing people’s comments it sounds like most people are in favor of option 2 because it simplifies things down. Geary asked if they could get rid of restricted parking signs. Barnhill said the police need to have signs, so they can enforce the parking plan. Geary suggested running a cable in between stalls that designate restricted parking. Wapelhorst said that in previous years, the city has suggested these be placed higher up, so they can be seen by drivers. Catherine suggested that the board could solve some of these problems by adding the diagonal parking on the side streets like they originally wanted to pursue. Wapelhorst said after hearing this discussion he doesn’t feel the board is confident enough in the new options to make changes. Wapelhorst asked if the group should instead issue more blue parking tags and oversell the lots this year.
 - a. Wapelhorst moved, seconded by Barnhill to oversell residential tags up to 25% and continue to move forward with residential and employee tags this year. Roll call: Ayes: Gordon, Doke, Geary, Blackman, Wapelhorst, Porn, Barnhill and Love. Nays: none. Absent: Carney, McNally, Stappert. Motion carried.

Norfolk Vehicle Parking District

The Vehicle Offstreet Parking District #1 is a special taxing district, encompassing the downtown Norfolk area, created for the purpose of providing and maintaining off-street parking lots for employees and customers of the downtown businesses. The Vehicle Offstreet Parking District #1 is also involved with downtown promotions and beautification.

VPD Board (9 members):

- Connie Geary
- Chad Barnhill 8/2018
- Pat Carney 8/2019
- Brad Love 8/2020
- Lacey Porn 8/2020
- Jessica Gordon 8/2020
- James Wapelhorst 8/2019
- Steve McNally 8/2018
- Brandon Doke 8/2018
- Lisa Blackman (Alt.) 8/2018
- John Stappert (Alt.) 8/2021

2. **Consideration of downtown sound system proposed updates** Barnhill said the current system is frying itself and is over amplifying by 400 watts. It was also installed incorrectly the first time and he said he is surprised it has lasted this long. The proposed updates and installation would cost \$2009.55.

Wapelhorst moved, seconded by Doke to approve these updates and installation. Roll call: Ayes: Gordon, Doke, Geary, Blackman, Wapelhorst, Porn, Barnhill and Love. Nays: none. Absent: Carney, McNally, Stappert. Motion carried.



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3. Update on Snow removal contract Lyle said this is all taken care of and everything they ask for was modified and they are good to go. Gordon said she will let the company know they can put out stakes. Lutt will notify them of the specific locations they can push the snow to be hauled away.

4. Consideration of filling spot on VPD loan advisory board

Invoices:

#70421 Power Computing for edits to website sidebar: \$75.00

Gordon motioned, seconded by Blackman to approve #70421 from Power Computing. Roll call: Ayes: Gordon, Doke, Geary, Blackman, Wapelhorst, Porn, Barnhill and Love. Nays: none. Absent: Carney, McNally, Stappert. Motion carried.

Committee Reports

1. Marketing (Barnhill, Love, Wapelhorst) Gordon said the downtown Christmas festival is all coming together, and a lot of business owners have stepped up to decorate trees on their block. She is requesting \$1500 extra for the downtown Christmas festival from the VPD board for added Christmas lights.
 - a. Barnhill moved, seconded by Porn to approve and additional \$1500 to the Downtown Christmas Festival. Roll call: Ayes: Gordon, Doke, Geary, Blackman, Wapelhorst, Porn, Barnhill and Love. Nays: none. Absent: Carney, McNally, Stappert. Motion carried.
2. Loans & Recruitments (McNally)
3. Beautification (Geary, Porn, Wapelhorst)
4. Parking & Traffic (McNally, Carney)

Consideration for next regular meeting: November 21 @ 8:00 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jarad Dahlkoetter, Norfolk Area Chamber of Commerce