

Duluth Parking Commission  
Forty-Fourth Meeting  
7:30 a.m. Friday, May 6, 2016  
City Council Chambers, Duluth City Hall

**Members Present**

- Andy Goldfine
- Howie Hanson, Vice President
- Steve LaFlamme
- Andy McDonald, President
- Chad Smith
- Matthew Kennedy, Ex Officio

**Members Absent**

- Karin Swor

**Guests Present**

- Mark Bauer, Parking Operations Specialist – City of Duluth
- John Clark, Duluth Operations Manager – Interstate Parking Company
- Rick Kollath – East Duluth resident
- Jenn Reed Moses, Planner – City of Duluth

**Approval 4/8/16 meeting minutes**

Commissioner Andy Goldfine motioned to approve the Duluth Parking Commission March 2016 meeting minutes without change. Commissioner Steve LaFlamme seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

**Discussion of 24-hour time limit ordinance**

City of Duluth Parking Manager Matthew Kennedy introduced a discussion of city ordinance #33-85, which specifies that vehicles parked on-street must be moved at least every 24 hours. City of Duluth Parking Operations Specialist Mark Bauer stated that the discussion was requested by Rick Kollath, a resident of eastern Duluth who had recently received a ticket for the violation. Mr. Kollath, who was in attendance, stated that he did not understand the logic of the ticket and thought it was unfair. He added that he felt it was not useful that a specific minimum distance a vehicle must be moved each 24 hours was not referenced in city code. Mr. Bauer described the benefits of time limits, which included reduction of perceived neighborhood blight, encouragement of turnover of public parking spaces, discouragement of the monopolization of certain areas by one or more parties parking several vehicles for extended periods of time, support with enforcing the city ordinance that prohibits inoperative vehicles from occupying on-street spaces, and better facilitation of street maintenance. Mr. Bauer stated that other municipalities feature different time limits and added that the time limit in Duluth had changed several times in the past, including a brief period of time during which the limit was eliminated entirely but quickly reinstated. He further stated that while a parker might be able to avoid receiving a ticket by moving a car a short distance on the street, this practice did not meet the intent of the ordinance. Commissioner Goldfine asked Mr. Kollath what his preferred remedy to his concerns might be. Mr. Kollath stated that he would like the time limit eliminated entirely. Mr. Kennedy stated that tickets for time limit violations generally result from public complaints of unmoved vehicles. Mr. Kollath stated that not many people know about the ordinance. Commission President Andy McDonald stated that while not knowing of an ordinance does not serve as sufficient reason to not adhere to it, the city could do a better job of publicizing this and other parking rules. He also suggested future revision of the applicable section of city code to better address all aspects surrounding the ordinance. Commissioner Goldfine requested that the parking division present in a future parking commission meeting the specific history of Duluth's time limit ordinance, as well as information on time limit ordinances in other municipalities. Commissioner McDonald requested information regarding the number of complaints the parking division receives for time limit violations, as well as historical information on Duluth's ordinance regarding inoperative vehicles.

**Planning division update on Superior Street redevelopment project**

Jenn Reed Moses, a planner for the City of Duluth, presented an update on the planned upcoming redevelopment of the downtown area of Superior Street. She stated that 60 percent of the final design was projected to be completed by July and that the complete final design was estimated to be completed by the end of 2016. Mr. Bauer stated that, as part of the street design process, he had worked with Ms. Moses and the project designers and engineers to plan locations for multi-space parking pay stations and supply the associated electrical requirements. Mr. Bauer stated that he would be able to provide the commissioners with the proposed pay station locations in a future meeting.

## **Proposal to convert a portion of West 3rd Street from alternate side parking to no parking on the north side from 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. Monday through Sunday**

Mr. Kennedy introduced a proposal to convert a portion of West 3rd Street from alternate side parking to no parking on the north side from 2:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. Monday through Sunday. Mr. Bauer described the proposal, which was initiated by a request to the parking services division by an area resident to review the configuration in an effort to increase the number of available parking spaces as much as possible. He described that the proposed configuration would match the existing configuration from Mesaba Avenue to 7th Avenue West but extend it to 11th Avenue West. Mr. Bauer reported the results of a survey of area stakeholders, which revealed that eight opposed the change and seven supported it, and that of those seven, most were residents of one rental property. He stated that, based on the survey results, the parking services division did not recommend the change. Commissioner Steve LaFlamme motioned that the proposed change be denied as per the parking division's recommendation. Commissioner Howie Hanson seconded the motion. The motion to deny the proposal was approved 5-0.

## **Proposal to convert a no parking zone on West Michigan Street to a five-minute drop-off zone**

Mr. Kennedy introduced a proposal to convert a no parking zone on West Michigan Street to a five-minute drop-off zone. Mr. Bauer stated that the request for this change had been presented to the parking services division by the Harbor City International School, whose patrons routinely pick up and drop off students and had been using the no parking zone to do so. Mr. Bauer stated that he had researched the history of the no parking zone and had been unable to identify a reason for the zone to feature a parking prohibition. He stated that a survey of area stakeholders did not elicit any responses but that stakeholders with whom he had spoken informally supported the proposed change. Commissioner Hanson motioned that the proposal be approved as presented. Commissioner Goldfine seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

## **2016 off-street parking event rate proposal**

Interstate Parking Company Duluth Operations Manager John Clark presented a package of proposed off-street parking rates for the 2016 event season, which included rates for Grandma's Marathon, the 4th of July, and Tall Ships. Commissioner LaFlamme motioned that the proposed rates for City of Duluth off-street locations for Grandma's Marathon be approved. Commissioner Goldfine seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0. Commissioner LaFlamme motioned that the proposed rates for City of Duluth off-street locations for the 4th of July be approved. Commissioner Goldfine seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0. Commissioner LaFlamme motioned that the proposed rates for City of Duluth off-street locations for the Tall Ships events be approved. Commissioner Goldfine seconded the motion, which was approved 5-0.

## **Off-street parking update**

Mr. Clark provided an update on off-street parking operations, noting that pressure washing and striping of all locations was complete except at the Hart District Ramp, which would be completed soon. He stated that the Canal Park parking fee enforcement season was set to begin on May 15 and concluded with a note that Interstate would be attending a job fair at Miller Hill Mall in an effort to fill staff openings related to the upcoming summer season.

## **Adjournment**

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Bauer, CPP  
Parking Operations Specialist

Matthew Kennedy, CAPP, CPP  
Parking Commission Secretary