

Safety Committee Minutes

Honorable Council
City of Newark, Ohio
January 30, 2018

The Safety Committee met in Council Chambers on Monday, January 29, 2018 following the Finance Committee meeting with these members present:

Mark Labutis, Chair	Mark Fraizer
Sean Fennell	Jeremy Blake
Jeff Rath	

We wish to report:

1. **Ordinance No. 18-01** amending Chapter 454 and Chapter 407 of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Newark, Ohio, regarding the regulation of parking vehicles in the downtown area was considered.

Director Baum- this was a cooperative effort between Chief Connell, some of the downtown businesses and the Special Improvement District. I guess to put a name to it that has some ongoing concerns with parking infractions. We needed to update our citation which was out of date and we would like to bring back some more active parking enforcement to satisfy a request from the Law Director's office regarding accountability we are looking at buying some parking measurement devices with Capital Improvement money which actually takes the GPS of a car and it has a timer as well as internal software that will track the vehicles location and time. It will store that and will make everybody as far as an electronic record of the violation that we can keep for a record retention factor.

Mr. Rath- we received an email today from somebody requesting the time frame be 3 hours instead of 2 for someone especially someone who might be elderly that wants to go out to eat and shop. Can you give us some insight as to how you came to the conclusion of 2 hours?

Director Rhodes- the time frame hours was done through a subcommittee of the Special Improvement District. The board met twice, the first time a subcommittee was put together. The committee members that proposed this are business owners in the downtown area. There was a healthy debate between 2 hours and three hours. We will see how this works, what they are trying to do is change patterns of employees and where they park.

Motion by Mr. Rath to send to full Council, second by Mr. Fraizer

President Ellington- if I got this right the city is paying for a couple of hand held devices about \$7,000.00. Will the fines then go towards repaying for those devices? Who gets the fines?

Director Baum- the funds will be collected by the Licking County Municipal Court as are all other fines.

Mr. Marmie- the hand held device will be specific to a parking spot or will it be to a license plate?

Director Baum- parking from one street in a 2 hour zone to another street in a 2 hour zone won't save you from a citation. You could only go from a 2 hour zone to an 11 hour zone or clear outside of that. Move from one spot to another within the same zone doesn't cut it either, you have to move out of the zone. Were city, county and downtown employees in mind for this enforcement? Yes they were. I feel that is our greatest obstacle is conditioning our county, city and downtown employees to park legally and I feel there will be plenty of parking for everybody else at that point.

Mr. Rath- what are the hours of enforcement?

Director Baum- 7:30 A.M. to 5:30 P.M. however what I will say is an Officer marking cars to come back and check in two hours after 3:30 is fruitless because at 5:30 when they would be in violation it would be open parking.

President Ellington- 7:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.

Mr. Fraizer- is the downtown district funding the entire enforcement or are we partially funding it?

Director Baum- the SID will pay a special duty officer at a special duty rate to enforce parking in the special improvement district however this equipment is not only available to the special duty officers but to regular officers to enforce parking around the City of Newark as a whole. The SID is not expected to pay for officers enforcing parking in other parts of the city.

Mr. Fraizer- the \$7,000.00 for the hand held device is for the software?

Director Baum- that is a rough number and it would not include a yearly subscription but I believe that is the initial payout for the devices themselves.

Mr. Fraizer- then we would have a reoccurring cost every year for upkeep.

Motion passed by a vote of 5-0.

Mark Labutis, Chair