



TOWN OF PALM BEACH

Town Clerk's Office

REPORT OF THE BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON OCTOBER 27, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Business and Administrative Committee Meeting of October 27, 2022, was called to order at 9:30 a.m. On roll, call all Committee Members were found to be present.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Crampton led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion was made by Member Lindsay and seconded by Chair Crampton to approve the Agenda. On roll call, the Motion passed unanimously.

IV. COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITIZENS

John David Corey, 426 Australian Avenue thanked the committee members for their leadership and spoke regarding parking in the commercial and residential areas in Town. He stressed that there was no such thing as free parking as there are expenses incurred such as asphalt, street maintenance, curb painting, signage, operation of the program and opportunity costs. He cautioned the committee on spending too much time trying to resolve commercial parking issues which should be handled by the commercial entities.

Member Lindsay spoke regarding the expansion of office space in downtown West Palm Beach and pointed out that this would lead to more traveling across the bridges and more traffic in Town.

Chair Crampton spoke regarding the history of trying to resolve the parking issue in Town. He stated that having turnover for businesses and convenience for residents were key goals of the committee.

V. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Old Business

1. Expansion of Paid Parking
Nicholas Caristo, Chief of Police

Paul Alber, Police Lieutenant, Professional Standards Division, presented the various steps to be taken regarding transitioning to the ParkMobile app-based paid parking system using mobile devices. He stated that there were several incentives which could be offered to the residents such as discounted parking and transaction fees for their guests. There will also be opportunity for merchants to log into their ParkMobile account to pay for parking for their customers. Merchants will also be able to purchase promotional codes which they can provide to their customers for them to access free or discounted parking. He explained that the codes could be set up with expiry dates as necessary. Lt. Alber further explained the different methods merchants could use to differentiate between employees and customers whenever an account is created for their business.

Public Comments

Michael Maus, 312 Worth Avenue spoke regarding the transactional costs and enquired how a merchant would be able to make these transactions. Lt. Alber explained that the merchant would have to access the app on their device and that a business could either give the customer a promotional code or pay the parking for the customer.

Dr. Richard Lynn, Palm Beach Midtown Business Association, enquired about reimbursement to the customer from the merchant and about assistance needed by elderly users. Lt. Alber stated that parking enforcement would be available to provide assistance as needed.

Chair Crampton stated that the rise in use of ParkMobile in Palm Beach has been exponential in the past few years.

Lt. Alber stated that community outreach was one of the aspects of making the community aware of this new system. He stated that staff recommends a comprehensive implementation throughout the entire community instead of a phased-in approach.

Member Lindsay stated there should be option for on-site valet due to some people opting for convenience and expressed her concerns regarding the signage. She stated that signs should be minimal and requested that the Council be given the opportunity to see the signage during the design phase before they are finalized. Lt. Alber stated that the Town would have wide latitude regarding the creation of the signs but stated that it would have to include the ParkMobile app sign.

Dr. Lynn inquired how the valet parking system would handle the ParkMobile program and if it would also be a comprehensive implementation for the valet parking.

Laurel Baker, Palm Beach Chamber of Commerce expressed her concern regarding the number of parking spaces in Town and some of the resident placard parking

spaces which did not seem to be used on a regular basis.

Dr. Lynn, speaking as a Town resident, expressed his disagreement regarding Ms. Baker's concerns about use of street parking by residents. Mr. Corey expressed his agreement with Dr. Lynn's comments.

Mr. Maus stated that increasing paid parking will increase turnover for the commercial areas which would be a good thing for the Town and the merchants.

Member Lindsay thanked the residents/business owners for their input and made comments regarding parking in commercial and residential areas.

Wayne DaCote, the Esplanade Garage, stated that he agreed with the thirty-minute parking in the commercial district.

Lt. Alber summarized that, if Town Council approves the measure, paid parking using ParkMobile will be implemented in the commercial district using strategically placed kiosks and a few 30-minute spaces on the various streets, including Worth Avenue, S. County Road and Royal Poinciana Way.

2. Worth Avenue Valet Parking
 Nicholas Caristo, Chief of Police

Lt. Alber stated that the Town would have to create partnerships with the valets and various parking lots.

Member Lindsay gave a brief history of the Town Council's request regarding valet parking.

Public Comments

Dr. Lynn spoke regarding the area of S. County Road between Royal Palm Way and Brazilian Avenue and suggested that the best place for a valet stand would be the northwest corner of Brazilian Avenue.

Mr. DaCota stated that there was capacity for valet service in the Esplanade garage but directional signs were needed to direct people to the valet stands.

Chair Crampton stated that outreach was needed to the Apollo lot in order to develop a partnership with the Town to increase capacity.

VI. ANY OTHER MATTERS

There were none.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion was made by Member Lindsay and seconded by Chair Crampton to adjourn the Business and Administrative Committee meeting at 10:40 a.m. The Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVED:

Lewis S.W. Crampton, Chair

ATTEST:

Pat Gayle-Gordon, Acting Town Clerk

Date