

CITY COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE
Ordinances & Administration
Monday, May 17, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.
Council Conference Room – City Hall

Present: Chair, Councilor Sefatia Theken; Co-Chair Councilor Ann Mulcahey;

Absent: Councilor Tobey

Also Present: Councilor Hardy; Linda T. Lowe; Bob Ryan; Jill Buchanan; Peter Jenner;
Debra Ryan

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

1. Unfinished Business:

- A) CC2010-015 (Ciolino/Mulcahey) Amend GCO Sec. 22-290 “Parking meter zone-Off Street Parking areas” re: Manuel F. Lewis Street (Continued from 05/03/2010) [GCO amended to read *Sec. 22-289 Parking meter zones-On streets*]

Councilor Theken stated there was confusion as to the meters on Manuel Lewis Street to make senior parking with beach stickers so there is free parking. There were questions as to whether it would be just for seniors, would they post signs, etc. Councilor Ciolino at their last meeting clarified the original intent was to have the spaces be on a first come, first serve, not reflected in the Traffic Commission minutes. The Committee also wanted to explore a time limit of 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. **Bob Ryan**, Traffic Commission stated initially when the matter came before the Traffic Commission the six metered parking spaces on Manuel F. Lewis Street would be resident senior sticker parking 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m., and had no problem with that. Councilor Ciolino stated the day after that meeting that was not the intent. They just wanted seniors to be able to park free. As far as signage, he recommended that there be no signs. He encouraged education of the seniors at the Rose Baker Senior Center and the meter enforcement personnel so that they are aware to not ticket seniors with the resident beach parking stickers.

Mr. Jenner felt that there will probably be parking for four seniors. There aren't that many in the winter that park on Manuel Lewis Street. It's only 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. in the parking lot in the back of the Center.

Councilor Theken felt it should be unlimited hours Monday through Friday. If there is a senior resident sticker on the vehicle, they will not be ticketed. She noted Councilor Tobey at the last meeting asked that Ms. Sheehan research other parking situations at senior centers in the area, which Mr. Jenner undertook (on file). When the Center was built, there were 10 designated spaces were created with limited hours of 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. There is parking for seniors behind the building as well.

Mr. Ryan clarified that there are 10 on one side, 19 on two rows in the adjacent lot.

There was a discussion regarding those spaces as to who could use them and that they were, in fact, City-owned; and allow for anyone to park in them currently. They were not part of the Rose Baker Senior Center. They should possibly designate the City-owned spaces in the Manuel F. Lewis Street lot for seniors only and ask the meter personnel to monitor the lot with signage indicating that 9 spaces were for seniors from 9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday. There was a discussion as to how to enforce the sticker parking in the City-owned parking spaces, and how to designate vehicles as belonging to seniors and to the volunteers.

Councilor Theken suggested as a courtesy a letter be sent to the abutting businesses to advise them of intent to designate these additional 9 spaces for Senior Parking from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, inviting them to the June 14th meeting.

Ms. Lowe stated the public parking lot that is not metered is not changing an ordinance. She was concerned that there may be enforcement issues.

Councilor Theken stated they will educate the seniors and the meter enforcement personnel to know of this change.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Mulcahey, seconded by Councilor Theken, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed to recommend to the City Council to amend GCO Sec. 22-289 to allow vehicles with current City of Gloucester Senior Resident Beach Parking Stickers to park free at the six meters on Manuel F. Lewis Street Monday through Friday on a first-come, first-serve basis AND ADVERTISE FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

Councilor Hardy asked about the handicapped parking spaces at the Senior Center.

Councilor Theken stated that she would like to increase the handicapped parking by one more space (total to then be three designated handicapped parking spaces), once these parking lot spaces are designated.

A letter is to be sent to the abutters for proposed posting of signage for the City-owned parking spaces in the lot off of Rogers Street to create 9 additional designated Senior Resident Parking Gloucester senior resident beach parking sticker holders, 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Monday - Friday. The letter is to be from the O&A Committee signed by Councilor Theken inviting abutters to come to the June 14, 2010 meeting on the matter.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Mulcahey, seconded by Councilor Theken, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed to amend GCO Sec. 22-287 “Disabled Veterans/Handicapped Parking” to create an additional handicapped parking space to be created nearest a rear entrance to the Rose Baker Senior Center AND TO ADVERTISE FOR PUBLIC HEARING.

- B) CC2010-011 (Hardy) Order that City Council review the current Rules of Procedure in order to bring them up to date (Continued from 05/03/2010)

The Councilors discussed the matter and placed a final deadline by memo to the Council of June 14, 2010, when at that time a vote will be taken on the submitted changes to the Rules of Procedure. If the Councilors wish to be heard, they must submit their requests in writing to Councilor Theken prior to the deadline.

- C) Reappointments:

Ms. Buchanan was asked about the projects coming up for the Clean Energy Commission and remarked they are working towards the City’s becoming a “green community” which will allow for accessing State funding and improvement of the City’s energy conservation programs. Councilor Hardy asked Ms. Buchanan to take the State Ethics test and to check with Mr. Cleves, her Chair, on the new Open Meeting Law. Ms. Lowe spoke to Ms. Buchanan on how to complete the State’s on-line exam and to hand in the print out proof of taking the test to her office.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Mulcahey, seconded by Councilor Theken, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed to recommend to the City Council the reappointment of Jill Buchanan to the Clean Energy Commission, TTE 02/14/2012.

Councilor Theken lauded Ms. Ryan’s volunteer service to the City and hoped that she would stay on. **Ms. Ryan** stated she has been ill and recently returned to work for a limited hours per week. Being that

the Tourism Commission is going a different way than she had envisioned, pointing to the resignation of Ms. Mona Faherty. She questioned giving Destination Marketing Organization (DMO) \$8,000.00, a private organization. She felt the DMO did not do well at all last year and didn't understand why they would give that amount of money to a private organization. She would want to hold onto the Gloucester website and build on that instead of linking the DMO website. She knows that the Chamber works very hard; the DMO works very hard as do all the other organizations promoting the City as a tourist destination. They all want to see the City flourish. This is why she joined more than three years ago. She felt the City would want more control over tourism as it is important to the City as a primary industry.

MOTION: On motion by Councilor Mulcahey, seconded by Councilor Theken, the Ordinances & Administration Committee voted 2 in favor, 0 opposed to recommend to the City Council the reappointment of Debra Ryan to the Tourism Commission, TTE 02/14/2013.

Councilor Theken asked that the Administration answer to the City Council, in particular reference when at O&A Mr. Duggan had stated the City would not give money to a private entity (also referring to a recent Tourism Commission issue taken up by the O&A Committee):

- Accountability of the money given to private entities, in particular \$8,000.00 to the DMO.

2. *Letter to the Personnel File for Joanne Senos, Assistant City Clerk (referred out from City Council Meeting of 5/11/2010)*

A letter of commendation was signed by Councilor Theken and Councilor Mulcahey to be placed in the personnel file of Ms. Senos.

3. *Other Business*

None.

A motion was made, seconded and voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**Dana C. Jorgenson
Clerk of Committees**