

**MINUTES OF THE
PUBLIC WORKS/SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 14, 2019 - 5:30 PM
DESTIN CITY HALL BOARDROOM**

1. CALL TO ORDER & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Vice Chairman Ramswell called the Public Works/Safety Committee to order on Tuesday, May 14, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.; which was followed by Pledge of Allegiance.

2. ROLL CALL:

Members Present

Anthony Ramswell
Tom Weidenhamer
Mike Parker
Sam Perman
Jim Wood, Jr.

Members Absent

Phil Jata
Kevin Schmidt

Staff

Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk
Joe Bodi, Engineering Assistant

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: February 12, 2019

Motion by Committee member Weidenhamer seconded by Committee member Perman; the members voted 5-0 to approve the February 12, 2019 minutes as written.

4. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN & VICE CHAIRMAN:

Committee member Weidenhamer made the motion to nominate Vice Chairman Ramswell as the Chairman for the Committee with Committee member Parker providing the second. A roll call vote of 5-0 was taken and the motion passed.

Committee member Perman made the motion to nominate Kevin Schmidt as the Vice Chairman for the Committee with Committee member Weidenhamer providing the second. A roll call vote of 5-0 was taken and the motion passed.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

➤ **Twin Lakes No Parking Signs Locations**

The Chairman asked for the status. According to Mr. Bodi, they are not up yet because the item was tabled due to the need for better pictures.

Committee member Weidenhamer made the motion to remove from the table the Twin Lakes No Parking signs to discuss further; now that colored pictures are available. Committee member Wood providing the second. A roll call vote of 5-0 was taken and the motion passed.

Mr. Bodi explained the colored maps provided shows the two locations for the No Parking signs request and pointed out how narrow the roadways are. And also, the locations are close to intersections, which could impede the line of sight and staff is looking for a recommendation to Council.

Committee member Perman asked if the HOA is aware of the request. According to Mr. Bodi, he would assume so since they are making the request.

Motion by Committee member Weidenhamer to recommend that City Council approve the request to install two No Parking signs at the locations requested by the Twin Lakes HOA. With Chairman Ramswell providing the second.

Committee member Perman questioned this step since they are not sure that Twin Lakes HOA has given the approval of the installation of the signs noting that she has experience of HOA stepping outside of their boundaries in the past. Committee member Weidenhamer spoke of how he assumes the HOA can take care of their affairs and he does not want to delay this any further than it's already been.

The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

➤ **No Parking Signs at 109 & 115 Sibert Avenue**

Mr. Bodi explained that city staff conducted a preliminary review of this request and determined that there is an additional need other than these two locations. He explained that there is a large area of vacant property on Sibert Avenue and the sidewalks are cracked and broken due to people driving their vehicles over and/or parking on them and staff would like to recommend No Parking signs be extended all the way down along the right-of-way from 109 to 139 Sibert Avenue to protect the infrastructure.

Committee member Perman asked if the Code Compliance Officers are allowed to tag the people that are parking on and over the sidewalks only if No Parking Signs are present. According to Mr. Bodi, that is correct. She then asked about towing the cars. According to Mr. Bodi that has not been considered and would most likely have to be in the form of an ordinance.

Committee member Parker alternately suggested a hefty fine should be considered.

Motion by Committee member Weidenhamer to recommend City Council direct staff to install No Parking Signs from 109 to 139 Sibert Avenue with Committee member Perman providing the second. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 5-0.

Committee member Perman stated that she feels towing is going to be the ultimate answer to stop the people from parking on the right-of-way because most come down with unlimited spending and wouldn't have an issue with paying a small parking fine.

Committee member Weidenhamer feels that most of the people parking in the ROW are employees of the nearby restaurants trying to avoid the daily \$5.00 parking fee.

Committee member Wood asked if they could get data on the parking fines that are being issued for the no parking zones. The Chairman added that he would like to know what the fines are as well. Mr. Bodi explained that they could make a request to have the department head to come in and make a presentation to them and discuss their concerns.

Chairman Ramswell made the motion to invite Code Compliance Manager, Joey Forgione to come to an upcoming meeting to discuss parking fines, towing, and what's the average cost. Mr. Bodi stated that he really didn't need to make a motion, but they could ask for the department heads to come in and make a presentation. The Chairman stated he would call and speak to with Mr. Forgione the following day to schedule him to attend an upcoming meeting. The motion died for lack of a second.

➤ **118 Calhoun Avenue**

Mr. Bodi explained this request is located across from Leonard Destin Park and the property owner are requesting no parking signs across the frontage of their property; which is a short term rental property. Adding that he feels this is mostly stemming from construction workers parking their vehicles along the ROW and working on constructing the park across the street.

Motion by Committee member Perman to recommend City Council direct staff to install No Parking Signs from at 118 Calhoun Avenue with Committee member Weidenhamer providing the second. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 4-1, with Committee member Wood dissenting. *Discussed to add Code Compliance phone # on No parking signs.*

6. **BICYCLE SUB COMMITTEE REPORT:**

The Chairman stated that he would like to revive this initiative that was created by Nancy Weidenhamer and mentioned somehow they got off track from this item and he would like to bring it back again for discussion at their next meeting to work on how they can get bicycle helmets, bicycles and other bike related items for people in need in Destin.

7. **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS:**

Committee member Wood – Explained why he voted against the last motion referencing an over abundance of no parking signs and questions if all the areas can be properly enforced. He also stated that the mention of the property being short term rentals might be a factor in cars parking out on the right of way and he could not agree at this point without all the necessary information.

Committee member Parker – Provided kudos to the staff's tree trimming and how impressed he was with their work in Kell-Aire.

Committee member Perman – Spoke of the planned traffic study that didn't take place last year during the 100-days of summer on Dolphin Street. According to Mr. Bodi staff is coordinating with the Sheriff's Department to make sure the study is done this summer. She then asked about the status of the widening of Dolphin Street and does he know if it is on the 5-year plan. According to Mr. Bodi, he will find out and provide them with an update at their next meeting.

Chairman Ramswell – Brought up the area assignments that need to be assigned to Mr. Wood. In discussions of the areas, Committee member Perman and Wood traded areas; which is easier for each since they live near those prospective areas in the city.

Jim Wood area - 5

Sam Perman area - 7

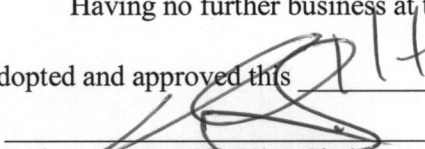
The Chairman also suggested to all the members to go out and walk their areas and inspect everything from making sure all the streetlights work, to overhanging tree branches into the ROW or street signs. He also spoke of the fatality/accident reports that are sent out from the Sheriff's Department and how the numbers are almost at the high point of last year and summer hasn't even started. He spoke of the high rate of speed that people are driving in the construction zones on Highway 98 could be the problem and feels the speed limits should be reduced from 35 mph to 25 mph.

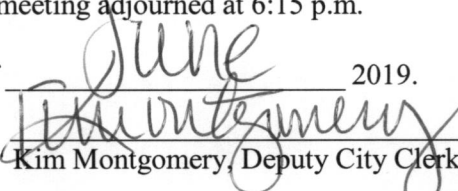
8. **OLD BUSINESS:**

• **Public Services Report**

Having no further business at this time, the meeting adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Adopted and approved this 21th day of June 2019.


Anthony Ramswell, Vice Chairman


Kim Montgomery, Deputy City Clerk