

**City Council Committee Meeting as a Whole
DANBURY CITY COUNCIL
Danbury Parking Authority ordinances
September 29, 2021**

Honorable Mayor Joseph M. Cavo
Members of the City Council

Mr. DiGilio called the Committee meeting to order at 6:18 p.m.

Roll Call:

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Alves, M. Esposito, Levy, Fox, Digilio, Rotello, Visconti, Salvatore, Priola, Knapp, J. Esposito, Santos, Perkins, Chianese, Henry and Cammisa.

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Buzaid, Stanley, Taborsak, Palma, Molinaro.

PRESENT: 15, ABSENT: 6.

ALSO PRESENT: ; Les Pinter, Deputy Corporation Counsel;

Parking Ordinance Revisions: Sections 46-149-153 & Sections 46-156 46-159

Mr. Pinter commented the Executive Director of the Danbury Parking Authority requested assistance drafting amendments to modernize and update ordinances. He noted seven sections within the code are being proposed for amendment. He responded to Councilman Chianese regarding Section 46-151B. Furthermore, he responded to Councilman Fox regarding Section 46-156.

Ms. Debbie commented many discussions have been held to discuss the modernization of garage equipment. She noted they have been experiencing difficulties with the garage equipment, which is manufactured by Federal APD. In 2012, Federal APD sold their company to 3M, which closed the parking division in 2014, and left the City with no equipment support. She discussed how the garage equipment is outdated and technical issues they are experiencing. Currently, the parking system does not support security measures to accept credit/debit cards.

The City will be funding parking garage improvements for both garages. The plan is to update the City garages with the following: state of the art equipment, kiosks and license plate recognition cameras. The public will be required to prepay before parking in the garage. The City will be launching a mobile app to pay for parking. In the future, she plans on requesting the Booth Personnel job title be updated to Parking Violation Enforcement Officers.

She responded to Councilman Knapp regarding improvements to other areas and user-friendly kiosks. She noted the Street Scape Project will replace some of the parking meters with kiosks. Furthermore, the T2 Systems kiosks will be able to accept cash/card and offers multiple language selection. She responded to Councilman Chianese regarding free parking and upgrade costs, which amount to \$110,000.00. Free parking will still take place on Sundays for street parking only.

She responded to Councilman Santos regarding past revenues for the garages and street. The Danbury Parking Authority was hit with a \$200,000.00 revenue loss due to the COVID-19 pandemic. She responded to Councilman Perkins regarding payback timeframe for equipment. Furthermore, she responded to Councilman J.

Esposito regarding increase in parking fees. The garage parking fee will increase to \$1.00 for 45 minutes.

She responded to Councilman Rotello regarding the proposed language changes and Section 46-153B. The City will be removing the parking meters and replacing them kiosks. To note, street parking has a 2-hour limit.

Councilman J. Esposito commented the improvement project is very beneficial for the City.

Councilman Salvatore asked if the Traffic Authority sets the rates. Mr. Pinter responded the Traffic Authority sets the rates and defines the parking spaces for street parking. Ms. Debbie noted to change street parking rates, they must communicate with the Traffic Authority and the Mayor makes the final decision.

Councilman DiGilio noted Councilman Henry is present. Furthermore, he will ask the Mayor if they can add the report to the October meeting.

A motion was made by Councilman Knapp, seconded by Councilman Fox, to recommend to the City Council the amendment of the following sections of Article 4 Division 2 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Danbury as proposed and pertaining to parking meters and procedures: 46-149, 46-150, 46-151, 46-152, 46-153, 46-156 and 46-159. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Councilman Rotello, and was seconded by Councilwoman Cammisa, to adjourn the City Council Meeting. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christina Martinez, Recording Secretary

Attest,

Joseph M. Cavo, Mayor