

Item 23-1251: Resolution #11-R-23 Overnight Parking

Municipal Services Committee

Mon, Apr 08, 2024 4:30PM

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 08:53

That brings our next action item 23-1251 the resolution for overnight parking, resolution 11-R-23. Do we have a motion?

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 09:06

Move for approval.

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 09:07

Second.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 09:07

We have a motion to approve and a second. Any discussion? Move and second Alder Alfheim. Alder Siebers, did you want to go ahead?

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 09:20

Just as a matter of introduction, I think the resolution speaks for itself. We have an ordinance, an overnight prohibition against parking on the street from 2am to 5am which creates a problem and not only my district but I think in other central districts, but I can only speak for my district. The ordinance is not (and I understand reason why, and I don't hold any blame to the police department) is not constan—consistently enforced. You know, the older properties and the older homes don't have triple car garages or long driveways. Some of them have only single car garages. Bigger houses are being turned into apartment complexes, and there's not enough parking. And so, people park on the street, and they risk getting a ticket. Obviously, when they do get a ticket, they complain to their aldersperson. When they don't get a ticket, the people who don't think people should be parking on the street from 2am to 5am—they call their aldersperson or they call the police department and say "Do something about it."

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 11:01

So, I mean, we've got an issue. And so, my thought was in regards to doing alternate side parking was, it's going to happen anyways whether we vote for this tonight or not. People are going to continue to park on the street. People are going to continue to park in their front yards. People are going to continue to park on their side yards, even their backyards, because they don't have any place to park, you know. So, it's going to happen anyways. So, my thought was in terms of the resolution was to less—let's get some organization in regards to allowing people parking on the street two to five, especially considering we have snow plowing issues, we have street sweeping issues when people park on the street. So, the idea was let's see if we can resolve the problem with regards to people not having places to park, and let's have some organization.

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 12:16

I know public works they did a survey of cities in the Fox Cities which I don't understand. But I did a survey of cities our size, and I found only two cities—Green Bay and Oshkosh—that don't allow alternate side parking. Waukesha, you know, Racine, Kenosha, La Crosse all allow alternate side parking. I don't understand why there was a big issue in regards to doing that. They have trees. They have—I would think they have street sweeping. And yet, they have a way of, you know, doing the alternate stride—side parking.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 13:23

So, I want to say one thing in closure. I want to apologize to this committee. It's been my practice in the past to run things pass staff, before I submit a resolution or bring it to committee. A lot of times staff has told me the resolution stinks, and I have said okay, you know, I won't go any further. And I've saved a lot of people a lot of time. I did meet with our police chief and shared the idea. The police chiefs stated to me that she didn't see a problem. She said, however, "I think you need to talk to the public works director." And so, I did that, and the public works director stated that she thought it was an idea worthy to know work with staff on.

Alderson William Siebers (District 1) 13:39

I, as I see it, and I can be interpreting it wrong, I see a huge, huge resistance to trying something new in this city by staff. I don't know why. Maybe it's because they don't live in the central district and they don't experience the problems we do in the central district. I don't know why. But rather than working together, we're working against each other. So, if this doesn't pass, nothing's going to change. People are going to park on the street. And we'll go on. At some point in time, somebody's going to have to do something. Thank you.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 15:14

Thank you. Before we move any further, we do have a member of the public that's here to speak on this item. Mr. Miller, did you want to speak on this item? If you could—oh could somebody get a microphone. We'll get you a microphone. Just give us a moment please. Thank you. If you could just state your name and address for the record, please.

Jeff Miller (Director of Campus Safety - Lawrence University) 15:50

Thanks, Chair. My name is Jeff Miller, and I'm the director of Campus Safety at Lawrence University. And my address in town is [XXXXX] in Appleton. I have con—contact—have had contact with Alderson Siebers on this issue, and, frankly, as the most frequent violators of the two to five parking, I'm here to speak on behalf of the students and Lawrence University and what a great help this would be to our parking situation and the issues that we face every day on campus. So, we have about 1400 students, and we have about 500 or thereabouts parking spaces. We're working every day to get new properties, try to rent space, we've been in discussions with the YMCA and the giant new parking area over there. And slowly but surely, we're chipping away at the at the issue.

Jeff Miller (Director of Campus Safety - Lawrence University) 16:48

What happens every morning is the students—I'm sorry, at the end of every day at five o'clock, when the faculty go home, the students get in their cars that are parked on the street, and they fill up our faculty parking lots. And then on or about seven o'clock ish, they'll go back to those parking lots and then move their cars back out on the street, and it causes a great deal of issues when we have special events. So just for instance, on Friday, we had our last Admitted Student day. There were about 40 students parked in one of our parking lots—the one right off of College Avenue—that was going to be intended for new students coming in. And so those parents had to find spaces out in the community somewhere, and, you know, find their way across College Avenue and so forth to campus. And that's just a day in the life of campus parking.

Jeff Miller (Director of Campus Safety - Lawrence University) 17:42

So, I feel like if this ordinance passes or something like it, if you were to ask our students to pay some sort of fee for parking on the street, we're absolute absolutely do that. All of the parking from Alton all the way around John, I think would be would be so beneficial to our students to allow them to feel safe in that in that areas, as they know where their car is. The police will continue to monitor that as they do so graciously in our in our

community. And you know, we would just be able to have more consistent parking for visitors, our faculty, and community members that are coming to visit. So, I appreciate your time and thanks for considering.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 18:31

Thank you. Before we head to the committee, Director Block, did you want to address Alder Siebers' concerns about staff's resistance? He said he wasn't sure why staff is against this particular item. Could you fill us in please?

Director Danielle Block (Department Of Public Works) 18:52

Director one. Thank you chair. I think overall since the resolution was introduced, there's a lot staff has discussed and discovered and learned. I mean, the very first committee meeting we kind of gauged the temperature of the committee on what direction they wanted us to head—permit only, no permit, odd even, year-round. You know, there's so many different ways we could take this resolution. And I think this final memo, it certainly lays out a possibility—what it would take, you know, to offer a consistent, even/odd parking structure. So, you know, it would be up to the committee.

Director Danielle Block (Department Of Public Works) 19:34

In terms of parking solutions other than on street, I would also point out just the assets of our parking ramps we have to accommodate campus parking and downtown parking. And that's a strong asset that the city has, owns, maintains, and operates, and we're certainly available to have permits sold for overnight parking. I did not touch on that in the memo, but hearing some of the feedback tonight I thought it was worth saying in terms of what our parking utility has to offer. So yeah, this last memo certainly provides a solution and it's up to the committee.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 20:17

Can you just tell us what a parking pass costs for someone who's purchasing to park overnight in the ramp? What would a citizen pay?

Director Danielle Block (Department Of Public Works) 20:28

\$40 per month. I believe it's taxable. So slightly more than \$40.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 20:32

Okay, that seems very reasonable. Alder Alfheim I saw your hand up, did you? Okay, go ahead.

Aldersperson Kristin Alfheim (District 11) 20:39

I think that the bigger issue we have is it's going to cost money. That's the real answer. We can do anything we want. And I think that there are rational choices on play that have been tried and true. I think the alternative road—I love the fact that you gave us a 22-page memo that goes to show how serious you've taken this. But I think that we're going to have to deal with the fact that, yes, we have to maintain our water and our cleaning. All this has to take place. Snow is annoying, but we have to find a place to go with these cars.

Aldersperson Kristin Alfheim (District 11) 20:39

Oh, yes, thank you. Parking, parking, parking. It—again, we live in a beautiful, beautiful downtown, much of which are historic, and so I do share a lot of the concerns that Alder Siebers has. We need as a city, it's a priority for us, to increase the density downtown. It's what we're supposed to be doing. So, this—we're talking about it today, but this is not a problem that's going to go away. We want more and more people downtown. We also want fewer and fewer parking surfaces. I mean, the last thing I'm hearing from my constituents is they want another big parking lot someplace. So, we have this challenge of bring down more people. The reality is that we

live downtown (and my district's a great example) we have a beautiful parking ramp, but it's six plus blocks away from people live. That's not a rational choice for residents.

Aldersperson Kristin Alfheim (District 11) 21:59

The biggest issue that I have is the inconsistency of the enforcement. We don't have overnight people watching. So those that are breaking the rules are most likely not getting ticketed unless someone calls. We have people that might be over by two minutes on a two-hour parking that are getting nailed three times a month. So overnight parking. In my neighborhood, we seem to get every ticket that is ever written, and I don't understand the inconsistency. And I am in fear that there will be at some point in time a challenge. Because if we have a set of rules on parking, and we choose not to enforce some out of lack of funds, sources, whatever, but we are hitting others on the head on a regular basis, I feel that that's a situation that is unfair. So, at some point, those people that are getting ticketed are being treated unfairly. That can't keep happening. So, either we need to stop over enforcing during these eight hours and start enforcing which maybe means our traffic person works nights a couple days a week. Maybe he's not cruising the same stroke stretch of roads. If we can't find more money to do it, then at least offer some assistance to those that are feeling they're not being managed at all by putting someone on in the overnight hours to actually give a ticket and take off some of the load during the day.

Aldersperson Kristin Alfheim (District 11) 23:22

But again, my issue is if we do nothing, well, if we don't keep talking about this, then I think alders are not doing their jobs because this is an issue, and it continues to be. So, what is the solution? Again, if we don't have any more dollars to play with, then how do we restructure our dollars so that there is at least a flow of following the rules 24 hours a day? At least there's some semblance of these rules actually mean something? If not, then what's the point of the rules? Then take it away. But we're not going to get rid of the cars because we're not going to get rid of the people downtown, and until we have a grocery store and a way that you can fully function downtown without a vehicle, that's not going to change.

Aldersperson Kristin Alfheim (District 11) 24:10

So, I really, really respect the DPW for trying to lay out different ideas. I don't think we're done with this conversation, but I would challenge this committee and DPW to not leave it alone. Because it is an issue. In all the goals that we have—increasing density, reducing parking services—the number one goal should be to have happy residents as much as possible, and there is an unfair situation to residents in downtown Appleton right now. That needs to be rectified by either balancing it or stopping it or ticketing everybody, and I don't think that one's going to happen. So, I would ask, please, \$40 a month to a bunch of college kids may or may not work, but \$40 a month to a parking ramp that a 75-year-old woman can't walk to is not a solution. It just isn't. Thank you.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 25:03

Alder Hartzheim?

Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 25:06

Thank you, chair. I think this is a very difficult situation. And I think that I agree very much with Alder Alfheim that we should keep talking about it. I don't think we're there yet. I don't think this is a solution that is going to fly. My concerns begin with, so from April to October, we have even/odd and it works out just fine. The rest of the cars don't disappear between November and March. So now what do we do? And now we've got even a bigger problem, because then there's snow removal kicked in on top of that. So, I applaud the attempt at this, but I don't feel like it's the place to go.

Alderson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 25:46

Alderson Alfheim talked about happy residents. We may make residents happy in the downtown area, but we may make District 13 residents very unhappy because now we have to pay for all these additional assets and additional work and additional people that come with having to enforce this sort of thing. I'm not trying to be resistant, as Alderson Siebers said, but there has to be some way to balance all of that because we can't just represent the downtown neighborhoods in this particular process, unless we decide we're going to only do this parking enforcement in the downtown areas that require it. That's something else that I think we need to talk about.

Alderson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 26:27

I don't believe that district 13 needs overnight parking. There's plenty of space there. And there are plenty of folks there that have lots of extra space in their driveways and garages, etc. That doesn't mean that I that I that I hate my district—I don't. It's just a whole different piece of the puzzle of that is Appleton. We're not as close together. That's just how it is. That isn't a good or a bad statement. It just is how it is.

Alderson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 26:54

So, I am not satisfied with what I see here but not because there's not been effort put into what I'm not satisfied with. I just feel like we need to have to have to move further to try to get closer to what will really work, and I also feel like if we're going to do something so sweeping (and I don't mean that as a pun because of street sweeping) if we're going to do something so big as this, we need to have some more residents input as well. Because it does affect everyone, not just the downtown folks.

Alderson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 27:27

The excess cost of all of this seems excessive to me, and I'm very concerned about that. And that doesn't mean that I don't want the city to do what the city should be doing as a city. It's just there has to be some other way to balance this. I think we have to dig a little further. So, I would hope that the committee would agree that there's some further digging to be done and not, you know, as Alderson Siebers said something's gotta be done. Yes, let's not let it sit, but let's try something else. Thank you.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 28:02

Alderson Schultz, what microphone do you have?

Alderson Alex Schultz (District 9) 28:08

Thank you, Chair. First, I want to applaud Alderson Siebers for bringing this forward. It's one of those issues that we deal with as a community that, you know, it exists but rarely gets talked about. You know, we sometimes we fill this room with issues that have little effect on this community or tangible effects. You know, we can have a roomful of people that want to talk about as missing Indigenous women or LGBTQ issues, which are certainly important, but the relevance to as many people as it affects in this community are maybe not as important as the thing we're talking about right now. This is the thing that affects a lot of people. And I have represent a district, Seibers represents a district, Meltzer repres—represents a district, Alfheim reps—represents a district, all of which are—

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 28:58

I also represent a district. **[This was said with laughter.]**

Alderson Alex Schultz (District 9) 29:00

Well, okay.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 29:01

While we're at it.

Aldersperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 29:02

I'm trying to pinpoint those of us who are in the historic sort of portion of Appleton where most of these homes have a single car garage. There's no capacity for more than one, two vehicles, and a lot of those homes have larger families where it's three or four vehicles that they're trying to manage, and very few of them have the capacity to either park in their driveway and accommodate the vehicles and often are challenged with what do you do when the kids are home? And so, I think it's one of those issues that we very rarely talk about, but it has to be figured out.

Aldersperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 29:39

And there is this thing that we do as a community that says okay, we see a challenge with parking, let's try a pilot project. Six months, we're going to do a opposite side of the street overnight parking program; we'll see what happens and we'll see if anybody reacts. And more often than not, the staff doesn't—we get recommendations to approve because we don't get any complaints. We make changes. People adjust, and they accept the new policy. And I think this might be one of those situations where we could institute a pilot project for six months or a year that says, we're going to do this even/odd thing, and we'll see what happens. If there's a lot of complaints, and we have to adjust to it then we'll do that. But I have a sense that we're probably not going to get many complaints. And I think for the most part, people will be welcoming to this change, and I don't know that it needs a lot more involvement from staff or—what—I'm not sure what the word I'm looking for is. I think that we could probably give this a shot, as it is written, try it out. But I would like to see a sort of a pilot project for six months to a year and get community input for how this works.

Aldersperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 31:02

It's, it's an ongoing challenge. It's sort of that unwritten thing. It's not a high profile, situation or issue, but it's something that a lot of us deal with. Most of us who have families and children who are visiting Appleton with a number of vehicles, and we can't possibly park them in our properties. You know, not, not a lot of us, I think, are calling in like we should, for those overnight vehicles. We just assume "You know what? I'm gonna take the chance and park on the street. If I get a ticket, I'll pay the ticket. If not, great." So, I would encourage the committee to move forward with this. I'm not sure that it needs much more discussion, except to say that we would like to see it become a pilot for six months to a year and engage community reaction. Because I do think it's something we have to tackle and it's worthwhile. And I recognize staff's work to figure out, "Okay, if we want to try this, this is how we'd like to do it." And I think there's something tangible there that we should support. And I would encourage committee to vote to move this forward. Thank you.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 32:16

District five, obviously isn't downtown. But I agree with Alder Hartzheim that this is something that is not important to the people of my district. And I just think it's unfair to ask them to fund something or to fund a trial when they're already paying more for their houses for larger driveways and maintenance. I had to shovel a three car drive the other day. There is a cost for that. I understand that people downtown, you know, that they need more parking than what we have at this point, but I don't think we're at a point where we can invest without taking away from other districts.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 32:58

I think this is perhaps something we could look at, you know, once our parking utility is full, and, and bringing in all kinds of money from all of the action that's happening downtown. Maybe we look at better enforcement, but I don't think we're there. And I think starting that we don't have enforcement, even just saying we'll have a

permit program, how do you know those people have permits? You know, it's—the problem is initially the enforcement, and I think we need to look at away at fund of funding that. and we're not going to be able to do that today. Alder Hartzheim.

Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 33:34

Thank you, Chair. I am against a pilot program in this regard because there's too many investments that have to be made. And if the decision might be, "Hey, this isn't working," then we've lost all those investments. I understand that sometimes we may move forward thinking best laid plans; it's going to be a pilot. But really, the public knows this isn't a pilot. They know we're moving ahead. And I don't want that to happen in this regard.

Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 34:01

My significant other who does not have anything to do with Appleton said to me, "Why can't they all park in the ramps and then just have a Valley Transit bus drop them off at each house at each of their homes?" Now, that isn't an ideal solution to this problem, but it is a another out of the box kind of solution that could come forward if we keep talking about this and trying to find an equitable solution that works for district five, district 13 as well as districts one, two, 11 etc. Thank you.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 34:37

And if I can say one thing about my constituents, we invest a lot of money downtown that doesn't get invested on the south side that doesn't get invested in other parts of the city. And they tell me that all the time. And so, it's really important I passed that along that they're not willing to do that right now, but we can maybe find a way to fund that in the future. Alder Fenton what microphone do you have?

Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6) 35:02

Thank you, chair. I also—I live in a district, represent a district too also which is not currently really affected by the street parking situation other than my—a neighbor who parks in his yard because they have about eight vehicles. But anyway.

Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6) 35:23

What I—how I want to address us is in line with all what Alder Alfheim is saying. Those of you on CEDC and people who have looked at agendas are going to see the report of the Mayor's Task Force on housing development. And one of the focus areas in that is increasing housing along the Wisconsin Avenue corridor. And that's not downtown per se. A lot of it is in Alder Siebers' district. So, you know, we heard last week that we need x large number of housing units. And so, we have to think forward in that most of those housing units or a lot of those housing units, are going to be infill and redevelopment of places that already exist. And we're not going to put three car garages in those places. You know, we—one of the things the task force talked about, and this was—the taskforce consisted of a wide range of people with really disparate interests, you know, from the Realtors Association to the Home Builders Association to Habitat. And they came together to make some of these recommendations, and I'll be honest, when I looked at my materials for this week's meetings, I kind of went "Oo!" at the at the cost of implementing this—the highest cost of implementing this whole plan. And it's going to be hard, but we are going to have to do something. The ramp is not a solution to housing along the Wisconsin Avenue cor—the ramps are not really a good solution to housing, even to Alder Alfheim's point, even to people with excellent mobility that's far away. So, I'm not saying that this is the solution right now. But we can't just let this go away. We have to figure out either, as was mentioned, you know, if we get a robust parking utility, and we have some money to invest in other areas, but we can't just drop it and say, "Okay, we don't have to worry about this again." So, my two cents.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 37:45

I don't hear anybody saying that they want to drop it and have it go away. I just see it, as the folks who aren't ready to move forward are saying that we have to find a funding source. And if we're talking about development, we can talk about investment with development. But what I don't want to see is an investment out of the general fund or investment in other ways that are going to affect the taxpayers of my district who are not going to benefit from this. And they already don't benefit from a lot of the things that happen here. Maybe we look at building a ramp of our own on Wisconsin Avenue. There's a lot of options, but I don't think that we're at a point where it's feasible to expect that the rest of this city picks up the tab.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 38:38

I also think it's really interesting that it seems to fly in the face of a lot of what we hear all the time, which is we want to push public transportation; we want to talk about less cars, less vehicles, but now we're hearing we're saying "Well, let's have four cars per household." It just—I don't think we're at a point where we found a solution that is taking into account the strategies and the funding priorities for the city. Alder Alfheim? I'm sorry, Alder Hartzheim. I saw the both of you.

Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 39:12

Thank you, chair. The Heims. That's just us. In regards to what Aldersperson Fenton stated in regarding the Housing Task Force and increasing housing and what Alder Alfheim said as well about increasing the density of housing, those are all wonderful things that need to happen in the city, agreed. But those I hope and pray will come with parking solutions, not just "Hey, we're going to have a place for you to live, but you can't drive anywhere." That would be a poor way for us to implement additional housing in the city. So, we have to come up with as a city ways to solve that problem that comes with the increased density and housing. So, I would hope that whatever we come up with—and again, I don't feel that we're here yet—we'll have that figured in Thank you.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 40:03

Agreed. And I think that the option isn't just more parking. You know, it's maybe having public transportation more available to people in those areas. Alder Siebers, I saw that you were asking to speak.

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 40:14

I'm really, really getting uncomfortable and disappointed in this conversation where it's going. It's not a us and them. It's not. I'm sorry, we're a city, you know, and you want to draw comparison. I would guess we spend more money in terms of police enforcement in my district than in your district. So, is that unfair?

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 40:42

I don't think anybody's saying that anyone is being persecuted. We're just saying our people don't want the investment. And I think that's fair to say.

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 40:52

One thing I'd like to have Aldersperson Hartzheim do in wintertime, when we get a nice good snowstorm—

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 41:00

You should direct your comments to the chair, please, Alder Siebers.

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 41:02

Well, I'm gonna direct it to you, and then you—she'll hear it. I'd like to have Aldersperson Hartzheim drive through district one after a snowstorm and see, you know, what happens in our district, in my district, when we

have a snowstorm. Three blocks, the snowplow has to go around a park car. Four blocks, snowplow has to go around a car. There was one time when we had a good, good-sized snowstorm, and there was a car that was parked overnight. In fact, it was—the mayor had declared a snow emergency. And the car was plowed in. The car tried to get out, couldn't get out. The car was red stickered which means you have so much time otherwise you're gonna get towed. From the time the storm stop to the time that the car was eventually towed was almost a week. Meanwhile, the car is halfway out into the street. So that's some of the things that that we experience. So, you know, anyways.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 42:22

I hear your frustration. I just—I want you to understand, I don't think that I feel as if it's district five versus the world. I feel that my constituents don't see the need for an investment. Where I see the priority being enforcement. You know, I think that this isn't the only option is alternate side parking. So, I hope you didn't take it that way. I apologize if it came across that way. That wasn't how I intended it to come off.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 42:56

I saw Alder Meltzer next. And if we can just keep in mind that we have 15 minutes left in this meeting this evening. This this would be a time to offer other solutions and comments that haven't been made. I don't think that we want to hold this for another meeting. I think we'd like to take some action today. And you can actually just put your hands down. I see everybody would like to talk.

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 43:22

Thank you. One of the things that I'm concerned about is our MS4 permit and the street sweeping. I think that staff has done some excellent work in bringing forward things that we can do, and kind of one of the big missing puzzle pieces is \$385,000, \$165,000. The anticipated revenue related to additional enforcement is estimated no more than \$220,000. So right now, the funding for this does not work.

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 44:04

I agree that we absolutely need to do something to change our overnight parking system. I'm very encouraged by the prospect of the parking utility having more funding and being able to fund things like this that would be under its jurisdiction. I also am wondering if this new housing study is going to maybe shed some light and help us think outside the box more.

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 44:31

So rather than just voting on this in—I'm pretty sure that this would not be approved tonight—I would rather actually hold it for a future meeting, maybe a meeting that takes place after we've had a time to digest the Task Force on housings report. Because I think that this is a very important piece of a much bigger picture, and since we're kind of coming up to a wall as we try to look at this one piece, maybe if we have some of those other bigger pieces on the table at the same time, we might be able to do a better job of thinking outside the box. So those are my thoughts on this.

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 45:08

I also want to add that one of the things that my constituents share with me is a desire to see more enforcement of the overnight parking. So, if we were going to look at, like, what is the low hanging fruit that is possibly available here, could we increase enforcement? Like, would anticipated revenue be able to fund some sort of increase in enforcement? Would that piece of the picture at least be self-contained? I'd be interested in having conversations to explore that further, and I don't think that today we have the scope or the opportunity to do that.

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Alderson Nate Wolff (District 12) 45:45

13. Thank you chair. I was gonna bring that up, so I'll just bring up my second point to that point. But as far as the trial period, it might be difficult to do it this summer, considering the state of our police department, and they have two people in school right now. They've had three resignations and one person on leave for injury, I believe. I might have messed that up. But we're basically down six police officers at the moment. So, we are already having difficulty enforcing parking at night on top of the fact that our police department is working overtime and we have officers working almost every day of the week. And working really hard. So, this might not be the best time to move forward with any kind of pilot or to address this at this moment due to the fact that we are expecting the police department to enforce more than what they're doing, but they're already doing their best with what they have.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 45:45

Alder Wolff.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 46:59

Thank you. Alder Alfheim—and again, just a reminder, I'll let everyone speak one more time, and then I think that we will have covered everything. So go ahead Alder Alfheim.

Alderson Kristin Alfheim (District 11) 47:08

Thank you, chair. First, the passion that everybody has in this room to speak for their communities is a beautiful thing. We don't often feel the heat on it in these meetings, but I think it's actually good sometimes that it's brought out. This is a big issue, and I can understand the fear of expense. So, my request to DW—DT—DPW would be can we investigate potential grant opportunities? Is there any way to tie, you know, controlling our phosphates and having cars parked in the right spot so we can do it efficiently? Is there anything available to us through Wisconsin or through granting that we perhaps would have the ability to address some of our issues in the future?

Alderson Kristin Alfheim (District 11) 47:58

I'm of the opinion that we're not prepared to do things right now. I think that we must do it. My problem is ticketing our way through this problem is not actually fixing the problem, and I think back to Alder Siebers initial point, we have an issue. We have to allow—somehow some way we're going to have to allow people to utilize the streets. So, we're not ready for that yet, but I think to just say "Let's enforce the heck out of it at night," is not a possibility, nor can we afford it. But can we explore? Can we explore if there might be some funding that would then allow us to say, "Hey, we know we can access X amount of dollars that might help offset this alternate road thing." We have to keep this conversation going, and it's not easy, and obviously it's causing a little heat in the room which validates that, but—she's looking at me. Please, please do share if it's okay.

Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 48:57

Yes, Director Block.

Director Danielle Block (Department Of Public Works) 48:58

Thank you, chair. I think it's worth clarifying in the last memo. So, the final page. That first bullet point that talks about street sweeping. So, there's two options there to not backslide in our MS4 permit. One is we'd have to increase that frequency—in the neighborhoods that do not drain directly to a pond, we'd have to rearrange the schedule, which would cause the current six weeks rotation schedule in other areas to move to an eight-week rotation. That would not cause backsliding. It would not come with a dollar amount associated with it. It however, though, those areas that currently see street sweeping every six weeks, they would see a decrease in the amount of street sweeping because it would take eight weeks.

Director Danielle Block (Department Of Public Works) 49:52

If we wanted to keep the schedule consistent and have everybody see the same street sweeping that they do now, that's where the call costs would come in; we would add an additional position. So, the street sweeping could be done with no backsliding, with no additional cost. It's just that modification of the schedule. So, I want to clarify, there is a way to do street sweeping at no additional costs. It has an impact on schedule and the performance.

Aldersperson Kristin Alfheim (District 11) 50:24

Thank you.

Director Danielle Block (Department Of Public Works) 50:24

Yep.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 50:25

Did you want to continue Alder Alfheim?

Aldersperson Kristin Alfheim (District 11) 50:27

Other than to say, this is a necessary conversation, and I don't think that we are ready to say we're ready to take an action on it. For to my colleague, Mr. Siebers, this conversation needs to continue. But I'm not wild about the option that we have in front of us. I guess that's my final statement.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 50:48

Thank you. I saw Alder Schultz.

Aldersperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 50:51

Thank you, Chair. Yeah, I mean, it's obvious that this is—there's a lot to digest in this conversation trying to figure it out. Where we are now is we have challenges to both homeowners who are trying to park in driveways and basically their one car garages that they can accommodate when they're overloaded. And we also have challenges to both the street sweeping and the winter snow plowing. We're trying to figure out, you know, a means to ameliorate some of the tensions between those two very contentious situations. Ideally, we'd love to have no cars on the street so that street sweepers could do what they want to do and plowing could do what they want to do. That's not going to happen.

Aldersperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 51:02

And we can allow things to continue as they are and just sort of kick the can. And that means residents will continue to do what they do, which is parked on the street, either calling it in or not calling it in. And that creates obstacles for city staff to do the things that are necessary for them to do. Or we can introduce something new to the community that says "Look, we want to find a middle ground for residents to have the capacity to park at times on a street and also accommodate by doing so accommodate the needs of the city to either sweep those streets or plow the streets depending on the season." And I think, yeah, it's a deep conversation in trying to figure that out.

Aldersperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 52:29

I appreciate what staff has come forward with because I think there's something there. I do think there's something there. And just looking at the numbers, if there were some enforcement based on a new program, you probably could fund most of this change in policy and allowing even/odd parking on the streets. But do we want to spend a fair amount of time on this and kick it back to staff? I feel like they've brought something

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forward that's worth trying. Wanna have a deeper conversation, that can also happen, but we just can't let it slide. And, I mean, I'm for anything that moves this conversation forward and trying to at least try something that allows our citizens to not violate the law when they're basically forced to.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 53:28

All right. Anyone else? Alder Hartzheim.

Aldersperson Sheri Hartzheim (District 13) 53:34

Thank you, Chair. I just like to agree with Aldersperson Meltzer that there is value here in looking at what this Housing Task Force has—will be bringing forward to us and further discussion in this regard. To Alder Siebers' point about us being one city, yes, indeed we are. The question that was posed, you know, drive down a downtown street in district one and see how badly it is blocked up with snow during the winter, that would not be solved with what's before us today. So, I just wanted to make that point as well. Thank you.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 54:10

Anyone else? Okay. If I recall we have a motion to approve on the table. Alder Meltzer.

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 54:22

Yeah, I guess at this point, I'll go ahead and make an amendment. So, the resolution that we have before us, the very last sentence "the city of Appleton follow the example of other cities in Wisconsin and allow." My amendment is to chop that off after the word "allow" and say "allow even/odd alternate side street parking."

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 54:58

I'm sorry, could you just repeat that? I just—

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 55:00

Yeah.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 55:01

I was able to pull up the—

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 55:02

So instead of saying "allow overnight on street parking with a monthly permit," change that to saying "allow alternate side street parking."

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 55:13

Second.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 55:15

We have a motion in a second to amend.

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 55:18

Director block has comments.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 55:19

Director Block.

Director Danielle Block (Department Of Public Works) 55:20

I was just looking for clarification. Year round or seasonal? If you want to get that detailed, that would help staff implement.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 55:31

Alder Meltzer?

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 55:33

What was—let me just get back to the memo. So, I guess we'll go with seasonal because that's what's described in the memo. Are you still seconding?

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 55:49

I will.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 55:50

Okay, so we have a motion to amend the resolution instead of allow overnight parking to have alternate parking, and have that be done seasonally with a permit? And then we have a second.

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 56:03

Which means—

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 56:04

No, not with a permit.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 56:06

Oh, without a permit?

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 56:07

Without a permit.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 56:08

Okay. Without a permit.

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 56:10

A seasonal would be April to October.

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 56:14

Yeah.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 56:15

Okay. I feel like that's a big jump from "We don't have the money to do anything" to "Let's go ahead and give it a whirl." But does anyone have any discussion on the amendment? Alder Alfheim.

Aldersperson Kristin Alfheim (District 11) 56:32

As much as I want that to actually happen, I think that we have heard enough discussion tonight to say that we are not prepared to move on that right now. I think that there is a pretty hefty price tag that goes with it. I agree with where we're going. But I don't think we have the time to finish that discussion tonight. I would rather park this conversation, come back to it. If that amendment is to fly, then we're not—I'm not ready to say yes to that.

As much as I'd like that to happen there's too many dollar signs that go with it to just go ahead and buzz it through at this point. We'll end up with a nightmare at Council if we do that. I would rather us take the time to back out and start clean on the conversation.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 57:18

Any other comments on the amendment? Alder Schultz.

Aldersperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 57:23

Thank you, Chair. I guess given all the conversation that has happened tonight, and understanding where we are, I would encourage the committee to potentially motion to hold this and give staff some additional time to give us some time and them some time to work through some further discussions on what this looks like. I— personally if I were on committee, I'd probably support the amendment to move this forward to see what happens because I don't—I'm not sure that there's much danger given the potential, you know, cost and input that could offset that cost. But I'd certainly encourage you guys to move to hold this to get some—to make this—

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 58:08

The comments have to be on the amendment right now.

Aldersperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 58:11

It is on the amendment which is I guess—I'd not support that amendment and I'd encourage you to hold it.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 58:19

Thank you. Anyone else? All right, hearing none, we will vote on the amendment. All those in favor of the amendment say aye.

Alderspersons Siebers and Meltzer 58:26

Aye.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 58:28

Opposed?

Alderspersons Van Zeeland and Alfheim 58:28

Nay

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 58:30

Two - two. It fails.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 58:31

That motion fails—or the motion to amend fails two - two. Now we're back to the item as written. Two - two, yes. You want to know which alders? We can. I just want to make sure I'm understanding your request. Do you want us to do a roll call by alder? Okay, starting with Alder Siebers.

Aldersperson William Siebers (District 1) 59:00

Aye.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 59:01

Nay.

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 59:02

Aye.

Aldersperson Kristin Alfheim (District 11) 59:02

Nay.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 59:05

So—you're welcome. Okay, so we're back on the item as written. Alder Meltzer.

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 59:11

I moved to hold this item.

Aldersperson Kristin Alfheim (District 11) 59:13

Second.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 59:15

We have a motion to hold and a second. I just want to remind everyone that the new session of council starts in just a week-ish. So, taking action on this would not preclude us from taking further action. Alder Alfheim?

Aldersperson Kristin Alfheim (District 11) 59:34

Again, I truly appreciate this conversation and where we're trying to get with it. I guess my request before it comes back to the committee—whoever is on it—is that the direct instruction, what the plan is, and the dollar tag, and what we're going to get rid of in order to fund it. I think that's an important part of this. There is a price tag to this whether it's amended or not, and to just throw it out there and pass it I think is just not the right thing to do. We have to know where those funds would come from. What are we going to take away to do it? Where—are we going to do it next year when we can put it in the budget? This is where I'm lost on this. I believe in investing in this conversation. I don't think that we are prepared to pass without the rest of the story, and that is a larger conversation. So that's why I am I'm hopeful that we can hold this and continue this discussion, and it's a very important one to have.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 1:00:29

Any other discussions on the hold? Alder Meltzer?

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 1:00:32

I'm not sure exactly what the timing would be, but I would like this to be held until after Council—the new Council—has had a chance to digest the Housing Task Force's report. So, if staff could suggest a timeframe that would meet that, thank you.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 1:00:53

Director Black, do you have a suggestion for a timeframe?

Director Danielle Block (Department Of Public Works) 1:00:57

I'll have to check with Director Homan on when the housing taskforce report comes out.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 1:01:05

Okay. I think I'd much rather see at this point that we just—this resolution goes away and that something comes back talking about funding and talking about—you know, if a pilot is what's necessary, if we can fund it, I'd like

to see where that funding comes from. That—so that's my take on the hold with the new session starting right away. Any other discussion from comments of members of committee? All right, we have a motion to hold with the timeframe being—can we just say the timeframe being after the housing report? I don't know. Typically, we want to have a...I believe that alder Fenton has been involved in this process. Alder Fenton, do you have a suggestion?

Aldersperson Denise Fenton (District 6) 1:02:03

Thank you, chair. The housing report—the report of the Housing Task Force is being presented at as an information item at City Planning Commission and Community and Economic Development this week. Um, I'm not—I mean, I'm familiar with the contents of it, and I brought it up just to mention the Wisconsin Avenue corridor, but I'm not sure that in terms of—the work of the task force was more about streamlining the process to get housing started, you know, than it was any particular—I mentioned the Wisconsin Avenue because that will be a focus that would be directly related to our issues. But I'm not sure that that report is going to have just a ton of bearing on, you know, funding or issues like that. Thank you.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 1:03:04

Alder Meltzer, did you want to set a timeframe for a hold?

Aldersperson Vered Meltzer (District 2) 1:03:07

Yeah, I was gonna suggest let's hold it for a month.

Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 1:03:10

So, for 30 days? The motion is to hold for 30 days. All those in favor say aye. Aye. Any opposed? That motion passes for zero. No problem.