

# **Willimantic Taxing District PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES November 15, 2016**

A Public Hearing was held by the Windham Town Council on Tuesday, November 15, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Windham Town Hall Bellingham Auditorium, 979 Main Street, Willimantic, Connecticut, to hear public comment on parking in the Willimantic Taxing District.

Chairman Lynne Ide called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 P.M. She explained the topic to be discussed and asked for public comment.

The following individuals shared their concerns and suggestions regarding parking in the Willimantic Taxing District: Marcia Garcia, Moises Flores, Ray Chaput Jr., Jean de Smet, Arvind Shaw, Dave Wollner, Andrew Gutt, Joe Marsalisi, Tony Fantoli, Lorraine McDevitt, James Flores, Ernie Eldridge, Tom DeVivo and Dennis O'Brien

Concerns and suggestions included:

- extending parking for QVCC students from 2 hours to 3 hours
- clarifying how long before people can park on the street when there is a parking ban
- limited parking downtown
- handicapped parking
- poor signage
- possibly adding times to parking signs and excluding weekends
- joining parking lots
- opening the former Noble School lot when ECSU is not in session
- poor lighting and broken lights in parking lots
- negotiating with SNET for the lot adjacent to Town Hall
- putting information on the website about parking
- installing kiosks
- hiring professional help to look at the parking issues
- the indirect tax on people
- the parking monitor position and what value is added to the Town by having a parking monitor
- the loss of business for local restaurants during the lunch time hours
- courtesy tickets during certain times
- parking on alternative sides of the street
- Main Street being a State road and the length of time it takes to add, remove or replace signage
- nighttime enforcement not needed
- condition of municipal lots
- criteria needed for residential parking signs and possibly charging a fee
- possible closing of a restaurant due to the lack of parking
- making the Town more student friendly
- consider parking recommendations from Police Chief Rosado

- issuing parking passes to students
- students parking in residential areas
- the need to review and revamp street and parking regulations
- conduct regular Traffic Authority meetings at night to make it easier for people to attend
- concerns with the approach of the parking monitor

Chairman Ide apologized to Shirley Mustard for forgetting to bring the letter she wrote. She stated she would give the letter to the clerk to include it in the minutes. (See Attachment A)

With no further public comment the Public Hearing was closed at 6:42 P.M.

**Submitted by**

**Barbara J. McKinney  
Clerk of the Council**

# Attachment A

11/14/16

Dear Sirs:

I respectfully submit that there are some trouble parking issues that impact me as I go from volunteer work on Main St. back up to 266 Walnut St. I also encounter problems when I go from my home to the west end for Dr's appts, hospital, & other commercial stops. There must be other people who are similarly impacted.

None of these are new issues. They have been brought up by others as well as by me.

1. Walnut St. between Spring & Prospect  
(Spring & Maple Ave are both one side only. Why not this block too?)
2. Walnut between Summit & Lewiston Street is not straight & when the 4 unoccupied houses are rehabbed where will students park?
3. Prospect St. between High & Windham St.  
Buses, emergency vehicles, student crossing a nightmare at times.

Thank you for your consideration of these areas.

Shirley C. Mustard