



PARKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, September 9, 2015, 5:00 PM
City Municipal Center, 616 NE 4th Avenue

Special Meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL

III. MINUTES

- A. Approval of the Minutes from the May 12, 2015 Parking Advisory Committee

 [Minutes from the May 12, 2015 Parking Advisory Committee Meeting](#)

IV. AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Post Office 10-Minute Spaces

Details: Mr. Fisher complained about the occasional lack of parking spaces on weekends in front of the post office on NE 5th and Dallas. He states that lack of an available parking space seems to occur when there are special events in the downtown core. The post office front door remains open after business hours and on weekends to allow customers to access their post office boxes. He suggested that at least one sign for one space should identify that the 10-minute parking restriction is for all days of the week. The sign in front of the post office currently states that the 10-minute parking limit is from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. The Camas Police Department has stated that, while the downtown parking is only monitored on weekdays, citizens can call 911 for an officer's response contingent on the availability of an officer. Staff would note that there are special events that occur downtown after 6:00 PM. Staff also maintains that the current signs allow enforcement of the 10-minute limitation on weekends. In response to Mr. Fisher's concern about access for the disabled, there are two disabled parking spaces on NE Dallas Street adjacent the post office.

Presenter: James Carothers, Engineering Manager

Recommended Action: Staff recommends removal of the limitation of 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM from the 10-Minute parking spaces in front of the post office on NE 5th Avenue.

 [Post Office Parking Request](#)

[Police Department Response - Post Office Parking](#)

B. Cedar Street 10 Minute Parking Space

Details: Diane Wintzer, the new tenant and business owner of Wintzer Acupuncture, has requested that the northernmost parking space on the east side of NE Cedar Street between 4th and 5th Avenues be designated as a handicap space. The existing space was designated as a 10-minute parking space at the request of the prior tenant. She has also requested that, if the space is not converted to a disabled space that it be returned to a 2 hour slot so that there is more opportunity for parking directly in front of the clinic and near the curb ramp at 5th and Cedar. While there are currently two 10 minute parking spaces on this block, staff would note that the majority of the parking spaces on this block have been changed to a 3 hour limit. While staff finds that a disabled spot is physically feasible in this location, staff will need to assess the current needs of the public in this location to determine if there is merit to this designation. Staff tends to not convert a parking space with a specially identified time limit, such as a lone 10 minute parking space, into a disabled space.

Presenter: James Carothers, Engineering Manager

Recommended Action: Staff recommends changing the time limit of the current 10 minute parking space in front of Wintzer Acupuncture to 3 hours.

 [Cedar 10 Minute Space Conversion Request](#)

C. Open Public Meetings Act Training Video

Recommended Action: Parking Advisory Committee viewing of the training video.

V. MISCELLANEOUS UPDATES

VII. ADJOURNMENT

NOTE: The City of Camas welcomes and encourages the participation of all of its citizens in the public meeting process. A special effort will be made to ensure that persons with special needs have opportunities to participate. For more information, please call (360) 834-6864.



**PARKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES - DRAFT
Tuesday, May 12, 2015, 5:00 PM
City Municipal Center, 616 NE 4th Avenue**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Niles called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present: Gene Dietzen, Debi Johnson, Geoerl Niles, Jennifer Senescu, Jodi Vaughan and Ami Bennett

Excused: Al Steinmann

Staff Present: Phil Bourquin, James Curleigh Carothers, Jan Coppola and Steve Wall

III. MINUTES

- A. Approval of the Minutes from the October 2, 2014, Parking Advisory Committee Meeting

 [October 2, 2014, Parking Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes from the October 2, 2014 Parking Advisory Committee Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

- A. Presentation from the Downtown Camas Association
Details: A presentation on the parking efforts of the Downtown Camas Association was given.
Presenter: Mark Klein, Downtown Camas Association

 [Downtown Camas Association Presentation](#)

V. AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Timed Parking Waiver Program
Details: A presentation was given about how a timed parking waiver program works for the City of Ellensburg.
Presenter: Carrie Schulstad, Downtown Camas Association

 [Ellensburg Timed Parking Waiver Example](#)

Discussion followed. This topic will be discussed further at a future Parking Advisory Committee meeting.

B. Parking Signage and Parking Map Discussion

Details: City Staff reviewed the current parking map and parking signage in the downtown core area. Staff presented an update of the findings of this effort and discussed the next steps.

Presenters: Steve Wall, Public Works Director and Curleigh Carothers, Engineering Manager

 [City of Camas Downtown Parking Map](#)

This topic will be discussed further at a future Parking Advisory Committee meeting.

C. Parking Time Limit Request from Kevin Taylor, Birch Street Lounge, 311 NE Birch Street

Details: Kevin Taylor requested the removal of a 10-minute parking space located in front of the prior Caffè Piccolo location be replaced with a 2-hour parking limit sign.

Presenter: Phil Bourquin, Community Development Director

It was moved by Committee Member Senescu, seconded by Committee Member Johnson to forward a recommendation to City Council to approve the increased parking time limit request from Kevin Taylor, Birch Street Lounge. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Parking Time Limit Request of Jodie Vaughan, Caffè Piccolo, Corner of NE Cedar and NE 4th Avenue

Details: Jodie Vaughan requested that the loading zone be removed at NE Cedar Street and NE 4th Avenue and be replaced with a 10-minute parking space. Previously, there was a 10-minute spot in front of the prior store location on Birch Street which allowed "grab and go" customers a parking spot.

Presenter: Phil Bourquin, Community Development Director

It was moved by Committee Member Senescu, seconded by Committee Member Johnson to forward a recommendation to City Council to approve the parking time limit request from Jodie Vaughan, Caffè Piccolo. The motion carried unanimously.

E. Parking Time Limit Request of Heather Sinjem, Farmers Insurance, 217 NE 3rd Avenue

Details: Heather Sinjem requested replacement of two 30-minute parking spaces with 10-minute parking.

Presenter: Phil Bourquin, Community Development Director

It was moved by Committee Member Bennett, seconded by Committee Member Senescu to forward a recommendation to City Council to deny the parking time limit request from Heather Sinjem, Farmers Insurance. The motion carried unanimously.

F. Parking Time Limits Request from Rand Thornsley, Liberty Theatre

Details: Rand Thornsley requested a 3-hour time limitation on the streets of Adams, Birch, Cedar, Dallas and Franklin between Third and Fifth Avenue.

Presenter: Phil Bourquin, Community Development Director

 [Request from Rand Thornsley](#)

It was moved by Committee Member Senescu, seconded by Committee Member Johnson to forward a recommendation to City Council to amend Rand Thornsley's request and approve a change in the two hour parking spaces along Cedar Street between 4th and 5th Streets to three hours. The motion carried unanimously.

G. Parking Advisory Committee Rules of Procedure

 [Parking Advisory Committee Rules of Procedure](#)

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

NOTE: The City of Camas welcomes and encourages the participation of all of its citizens in the public meeting process. A special effort will be made to ensure that persons with special needs have opportunities to participate. For more information, please call (360) 834-6864.



of Confused Knowledge

Located in Beautiful Skunk Hollow, Washington

June 11th, 2015

Mayor Scott Higgins, City of Camas

Melissa Smith, Camas City Council

Bonnie Carter, Camas City Council

Steve Hogan, Camas City Council

Tim Hazen, Camas City Council

Don Chaney, Camas City Council

Greg Anderson, Camas City Council

Shannon Turk, Camas City Council

Chief Mitch Lackey, Camas Police Department

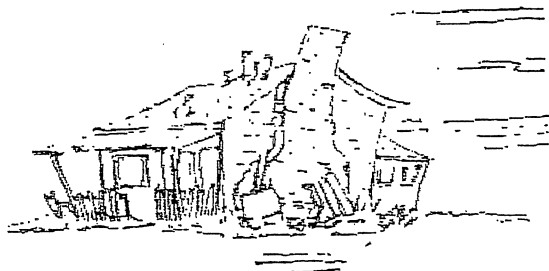
Greetings,

The June 9th edition of the *Post-Record* carried a story about matters that the City of Camas is working on, including considering some possible changes to parking time limits in some downtown parking areas.

There is a parking problem that the City of Camas and the Camas Police Department may not be aware of that I have wanted to bring to the attention of the City for some time but could never seem to find the time to present the problem. However, in view of the fact that the City is reviewing suggested changes to the parking restrictions in some of the downtown area, now might be the proper time to present the problem I mentioned to the attention of the City.

That problem, which occurs only on the weekends when there is a downtown special event and/or activity occurring, is how some visitors to those downtown special events and/or activities park in front of the Camas Post Office for long periods of time.

Main Campus



*The Skunk Hollow
Institute of Confused Knowledge*

The Skunk Hollow Institute's Motto:
Onward through the Fog!

**The Skunk Hollow Institute's
Mission Statement:**
*When in doubt....
....run around....
....and scream and shout!*

The parking spaces in front of the Camas Post Office are signed for 10 minutes parking. There is no wording on the posted signs stating that those parking spaces are 10 minute parking spaces only on weekdays when Postal customer service is available at the Camas Post Office (which would be Monday through Friday except for holidays) or if the 10 minutes parking time is in effect all seven days of the week. I'm of the opinion that the restriction applies all seven days of the week.

On those weekends when there are downtown special events and/or activities occurring, those parking spaces are always full of vehicles that more often than not, remain in those parking spaces for a much longer time than 10 minutes, often for times ranging from a couple of hours to several hours. If I am correct in my opinion that the 10 minutes time restriction is in effect seven days a week, this means that those cars that park in front of the Camas Post Office for those long periods of time are in violation of that time restriction.

So, are those people deliberately violating that parking time limit restriction? I tend to be of the opinion that they are not. I'm thinking that they, knowing that Postal customer service is not available at the Camas Post Office on weekends, think that the 10 minutes parking restriction does not apply on those weekend days.

I disagree with their thinking about that. Even though there is no Postal customer service available at the Camas Post Office on weekends, people still visit the Post Office on weekend days to get their mail from the Post Office boxes they have leased at the Camas Post Office.

But on those weekends when there are downtown special events and/or activities occurring, much more often than not, those people desiring to visit the Post Office on a weekend day cannot find a parking space in front of the Post Office (or within reasonable walking distance from the Camas Post Office) because those parking spaces in front of the Camas Post Office are already filled up with vehicles that will remain there for periods of time greatly exceeding the 10 minutes parking time restriction.

Some of those people that wish to visit the Post Office on those weekend days are people with walking handicaps or disabilities and need to be able to access those parking spaces directly in front of the Camas Post Office building, but are not able to do so because of other people that have parked there thinking that they can leave their vehicles there for as long as they wish to.

Those people that do have walking handicaps or disabilities that are desiring to visit the Camas Post Office on a weekend day should not be denied the opportunity to do so simply because there is a downtown special event and/or activity occurring that has resulted in a large crowd of people to visit the downtown event that has made it being somewhat difficult to find any parking spaces close to the downtown core area, which has resulted in people parking in front of the Camas Post Office for long periods of times.

I urge the Camas City Council to visit this problem and determine what should be done to eliminate or correct this problem.

I'm not advocating that, at the start of any new increased enforcement of the 10 minutes parking restriction in front of the Camas Post Office, that people that do park in those parking spaces in front of the Camas Post Office on those weekend days thinking that it's O.K. to do so because of no Postal customer service available on weekend days be given parking citations or their vehicles being towed. Instead, maybe for the first few months, the people that might park in those spaces, thinking that the restriction does not apply on weekends receive a warning notice with those warnings including printed wording explaining that the restriction is in effect seven days a week because there are people that do visit the Camas Post Office on weekend days. I'm thinking that doing that could, in time, "educate" the people about why that restriction is in effect seven days a week.

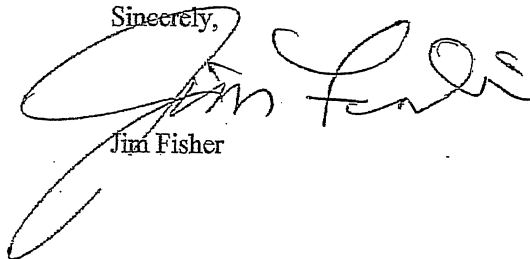
Additionally, it might be a good idea to add to the signs stating that those parking spaces in front of the Camas Post Office are 10 minutes parking spaces a second sign below the 10 minutes sign stating something like "seven days a week" or some wording that would make it clear that people parking there for longer period of time on weekend days are violating that parking restriction?

In addition to the street parking in front of the Camas Post Office building, there is the small parking lot on the west side of the Post Office building. That parking lot has a 30 minutes parking limit (which might be a Postal Service regulation rather than a City parking regulation). I'm of the personal opinion that it would be O.K. for people to park in that parking lot for long periods of time on weekend days because while there are people that do visit the Camas Post Office on weekend days, the number of people visiting the Camas Post Office on weekend days is much smaller than the number of people visiting the Camas Post Office on weekdays, thus, not as many parking spaces are needed to accommodate people visiting the Camas Post Office on weekend days.

I am aware that having the Camas Police Department regularly check the area in front of the Camas Post Office every few minutes on the weekends when there are downtown special events and/or activities occurring might not be something that would be easily doable. But hopefully some degree or type of action can be determined so that this problem is addressed.

In closing, I thank you in advance for considering this problem.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Fisher". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "J" and "F".

Jim Fisher

P. S.: I'm not Jim Fisher, the Portland car dealer. Instead, I'm Jim Fisher, the *Old Hermit at Skunk Hollow*. (That Jim Fisher car dealer guy, he's the real rich Jim Fisher; I'm the real poor Jim Fisher!)

P. P. S.: And in case you were maybe wondering, the *Skunk Hollow Institute of Confused Knowledge* mentioned in the letterhead on the first page of this letter, well.....that's just a name of a fictitious school that I have a lot of fun "promoting".

But.....should I ever build such a school.....oh what a magnificent educational institution that would be!

Curleigh (Jim) Carothers

From: Mitch Lackey
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2015 12:55 PM
To: Curleigh (Jim) Carothers; Phil Bourquin; Steve Wall
Cc: Shyla Nelson; Jeff Englund
Subject: RE: Downtown Parking Commission Items

Yes,
The City of Camas employs a Parking Enforcement/Code Enforcement Officer. The Parking Enforcement employee normally takes care of all of the downtown parking issues. However, the position only works Monday – Friday. For parking complaints on weekends, anywhere in the City, citizens should call and report the observed violation to 911, who will pass it along to a patrol officer. The patrol officer, depending on the priority of other calls, will be able to best judge what response to take to the reported parking problem.

From: Curleigh (Jim) Carothers
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2015 9:08 AM
To: Mitch Lackey; Phil Bourquin; Steve Wall
Cc: Shyla Nelson; Jeff Englund
Subject: Downtown Parking Commission Items

The downtown parking commission will be meeting the second week of September. Attached are the two requests for parking changes or clarification in the downtown core.

Mitch,
If you could please read the “Post Office” request and comment on the concerns and suggestions of Jim Fisher, I would appreciate it. The agenda cutoff is next Wednesday.

Thank you.

James E. Carothers, P.E.
Engineering Manager/City Engineer



616 NE 4th Avenue
Camas, WA 98607
360-817-7230
360-834-1535 FAX
jcarothers@cityofcamas.us

From: Curleigh (Jim) Carothers
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 2:47 PM
To: Diane Wintzer
Subject: RE: parking reassignment request

Diane,

Thank you for your email. Please consider your request to be properly forwarded for due process. Timed parking restrictions for downtown are firstly reviewed by Camas staff. If staff is not opposed to the request for substantive reason(s), the request is forwarded on to the downtown parking commission for their recommendation. If their recommendation is "yes", the request is forwarded to Council for considering adoption of the change by resolution.

With the change in use of the adjacent building it is not likely that Camas staff will have a reason to oppose the request for the time limit change. The parking commission will be meeting soon. Additionally staff will review your request for a disabled space based on use, characteristics of the parking space, and proximity to other disabled spaces in the area.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

James E. Carothers, P.E.
Engineering Manager/City Engineer



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jcarothers@cityofcamas.us

-----Original Message-----

From: Diane Wintzer [mailto:diane.wintzer@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 10:12 AM
To: Curleigh (Jim) Carothers
Subject: parking reassignment request

Hi James,

I am reaching out to request a change in parking slot status for the 10 minute slot on the Southeast corner of 5th & Cedar to a Handicap Spot. I am the new tenant in what was the Camas Liquor Store — Wintzer Acupuncture. It would be a huge help to have the parking spot available as a Handicap spot as I see many senior patients and patients with disabilities, or at the very least, returned to a full 2-hour slot so there is more opportunity for parking directly in front of the clinic and near the ramped curb. Please let me know the proper way to move forward with this request.

I appreciate your time.

Thank You,
Diane Wintzer