

# **CITY COMMISSION**

## **WORK SESSION MINUTES**

November 26, 2019

6:45 p.m.

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**PRESENT:** Commissioners Chilton, Estrop, O'Neill, Rue and President Copeland; Assistant City Manager and Economic Development Director Franzen and Assistant to the City Manager Cobbs.

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### **HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS:**

Topics discussed at the work session held on Tuesday, November 26, 2019, were:

1. Mr. Franzen and Ms. Cobbs presented an overview of food truck regulations in the city. The current policy in place only addresses ice cream trucks. There were 122 food trucks licensed by the Clark County Combined Health Department in 2018. Food trucks have become popular in downtown Springfield and complaints regarding parking issues were reported. Staff looked at other cities' regulations and met with both local restaurant owners and food truck operators to gather input. Reported concerns included on-street parking violations, noise, hours of operation, and variation of standards for food service.

A pilot program allowing food trucks to park on City Hall plaza including a vendor application and limited application fee was established in September 2019. Going forward, staff recommends a policy allowing trucks to park in a designated area on City Hall Plaza or in an on-street parking space that is at least 50 feet from brick and mortar restaurants provided they do not exceed the designated time limitation. A vendor agreement for parking at City Hall would require the vendor to maintain a food license, hours of operation, trash maintenance, and other guidelines. A \$100 annual application fee would cover the cost of electric and maintenance while on the plaza.

Mrs. Chilton asked if the 30-minute parking spaces along Fountain Avenue had been changed. Mr. Franzen and City Manager Heck explained the shorter time periods in this area is encouraged for in/out customers at the retail locations. Longer-term parking is encouraged to use the surface parking lots.

Dr. Estrop asked about repairs planned for the plaza and underground parking garage and concerns related to food trucks parking on the plaza. Mr. Franzen explained the proposed parking area would utilize a section that is on solid ground, not over the underground parking area. The proposed area also exceeds the 50 foot proximity ban from other restaurants. A ramp is proposed to the former ice skating area on the plaza to allow entry to the area from Fountain Avenue along with picnic tables for patrons.

Mr. O'Neill commented on the policy and stated competition between restaurants and food trucks is good. Business for one location brings business for the others. Mr. O'Neill suggested the proximity ban be 100 feet from other restaurants and agreed the \$100 application fee is good. Food trucks parking along the streets is a concern in many areas.

Mr. Rue asked if food trucks parking on the street would be eliminated. Mr. Franzen stated they could continue, but there will be stricter enforcement of parking in spaces with designated time limits. The proximity ban will also limit the areas where trucks could park near other restaurants.

Mrs. Chilton asked who would enforce the parking time limits, and Mr. Franzen explained the Police traffic enforcement staff would continue to monitor on-street parking especially when the parking garage is completed and available for use.

Dr. Estrop added the street along National Road Commons Park would still be available. Mr. Rue suggested a map of possible locations be included with the application.

Mr. Franzen stated staff would promote the use of the plaza for food trucks. Exceptions to the food truck regulations on the streets would be for special events such as CultureFest.

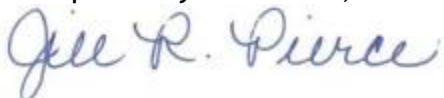
On motion of Dr. Estrop, seconded by Mr. Rue, the meeting adjourned.

Yeas, Mrs. Chilton, Dr. Estrop, Mr. O'Neill, Mr. Rue and Mr. Copeland.

Yeas 5, Nays 0.

Adj. 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jill R. Pierce  
Clerk of the City Commission