

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
PUBLIC PARKING AUTHORITY OF PITTSBURGH  
THURSDAY DECEMBER 16, 2021**

Having been duly advertised in accordance with the Sunshine Act No. 84 of 1986, a virtual meeting of the Public Parking Authority of Pittsburgh was held at 10:11 a.m. on December 16, 2021. The following Board members were present at the start of the meeting: Jeff Cohen, Matt Barron and Bobby Wilson. Present from staff were David Onorato, Christopher Speers, Chris Holt, Gwen Bolden, Mark DiNatale, David Perry, Tracy Sowinski, Karla Stanger, Jana Williams Scott McNaugher and Pat Konesky. Also present were Jason Wrona of Buchanan, Ingersoll & Rooney, Mark McCall of TJS Insurance Company; Brooks Robinson of The Pittsburgh Cultural Trust; Bill Stewart of Strategic Communications and Alison Keating.

**MINUTES**

Mr. Cohen asked for approval of the minutes from the November 18, 2021 meeting.

Upon motion by Mr. Barron and seconded by Mr. Wilson, the minutes were approved as follows: Mr. Wilson, yes; Mr. Barron, yes; Mr. Cohen, yes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. Cohen asked if there were any public comments.

There were none.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Onorato advised that an Executive Session was held on November 22 to discuss Real Estate Items as well as matters covered by Attorney-Client privilege.

Mr. Onorato advised that the Authority received a letter from the Bloomfield Community Group regarding the St. Joseph Site and advised that the URA has put a pause on the RFP process, which he advised was more of an information-gathering procedure. He said that the URA has formally responded to the community group's letter and offered to forward a copy of the response letter to the Board if it expressed a wish to see it.

Mr. Barron asked if the Authority makes it a point of policy to reach out to and include registered community groups in their areas of interest.

Mr. Onorato responded that we will include this step in our policy going forward.

Mr. Onorato advised the Board that we will be issuing an RFP for engineering and design work at the Forbes/Semple garage to be completed based on findings resulting from the inspection of the site. He advised that the RFP will be brought to the Board for its approval of the contract award.

Mr. Onorato advised that the International Parking Institute held its annual conference and reported that the Authority received an award of excellence for the rehabilitation of our Ft. Duquesne and Sixth Garage. He thanked both the Project Management and Parking Services staffs for their efforts on this project.

Mr. Onorato discussed the Finance Reports, advising that the monthly comparisons, again applying 2019 as the base year, show that November 2021 revenues of \$3.1 million are at 70 percent of 2019's total, again noting that the performance trend continues to move in the right direction. He added that the year-to-date comparisons for the two periods show the same trend. He advised that we are just short, by one percent, of hitting our amended budget projections for 2021 and reported that we continue to see an increase in our monthly revenues.

Mr. Onorato discussed the Garage Facility Reports, stating that they show the same trends as the Finance Reports, noting that our revenues from that source are 58 percent above the 2020 total but are well below our 2019 base. He again advised that the year-to-date report shows the same trend as the monthly one but noted that we are starting to see increased activity at more of the garages.

Mr. Onorato discussed the Enforcement Report, advising that meter violations and residential permit violations account for 80 percent of the monthly total. He said just over 13,000 tickets were issued for the month of November and added that 254,000 tickets have been issued for the year to date. Mr. Onorato said the 13,000 tickets issued in November 2021 is higher than the number issued in November 2020.

Mr. Cohen commented that the compliance rate is higher.

Mr. Onorato agreed stating that compliance is higher, adding that revenues are up significantly from 2020 while moving slightly closer to the 2019 total of \$1.12 million. He said they were just over \$1 million in 2021. He explained that street meter revenue is returning stronger and faster than garage revenues but did report that garage lease numbers are increasing.

Mr. Onorato discussed the Parking Court Report, noting that we are seeing increases in revenues from 2021's monthly total of \$687,000 compared to 2020's \$533,000. He advised that revenues are just over \$6.6 million for the year, noting that we also are re seeing an increase in fine collection performance.

Mr. Cohen asked about the health insurance line item in the Financial Report, which he stated

was \$60,000 in 2019 and this year almost doubled to \$121,000. He asked if there was a particular reason for an increase of that size.

Mr. DiNatale responded that he will check into this and report back to Mr. Cohen and the Board.

**RESOLUTION NO. 27 OF DECEMBER 2021, “A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING MR. BILL CONNER FOR HIS 26 YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT,** was read by Mr. Cohen and considered by the Board.

Mr. Onorato thanked Mr. Conner for his years of service to the Authority, stating that the measure of his asset to the organization was evident from the improvements accomplished under his leadership. He stated that Bill’s dedicated work and attention to detail leaves our operation a better place both for the Authority and its customers. Mr. Onorato said he will be missed and wished him success and contentment during the next phase of his life particularly with the more time he’ll have for golf, a sport he just began to enjoy. Mr. Onorato stated the Authority’s gift recognizing Bill’s service will be presented to him before he actually leaves.

Mr. Speers stated that as the Director of Parking Services, he would like to personally thank Bill as well. He advised that he himself has been employed at the Authority for 16 years and said their department would not have been able to achieve all it has during those years had it not been for Bill. He stated that Bill will be sorely missed across the organization he has served so well.

Mr. Cohen asked if there were any questions or comments.

There were none.

Upon motion by Mr. Barron and seconded by Mr. Wilson, Resolution No. 27 of 2021 was approved as follows: Mr. Barron, yes; Mr. Wilson, yes; Mr. Cohen, yes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 28 OF DECEMBER 2021, “A RESOLUTION ACKNOWLEDGING MR. HARRY WORMSLEY FOR HIS 31 YEARS OF EMPLOYMENT,** was read by Mr. Cohen and considered by the board.

Mr. Onorato thanked Mr. Wormsley for his 31 years of service to the Parking Authority, stating that he represented the Authority well in a position that often requires conditions none of us would prefer to work in. But rain or shine, he said Harry always maintained positive interactions with the public and stated that without his efforts to keep the meters in functioning order, we wouldn’t be able to realize the level of return from their operation that we do.

Mr. Cohen noted that the Authority has many long-term employees and thanked Mr. Wormsley for his long service.

Mr. Cohen asked if there were any questions or comments.

There were none.

Upon motion by Mr. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Barron, Resolution No. 28 of 2021 was approved as follows: Mr. Barron, yes; Mr. Wilson, yes; Mr. Cohen, yes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 29 OF DECEMBER 2021, “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH VARIOUS INSURANCE COMPANIES TO OBTAIN INSURANCE COVERAGES FOR THE PARKING AUTHORITY FOR A ONE-YEAR PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 2022 AND CONTINUING THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2022,** was read by Mr. Cohen and considered by the Board.

Mr. Onorato advised the Board that we are asking for authorization to renew our insurance coverages with the same brokers that currently in place. He advised that the year's overall price increased by approximately \$44,000, or eight percent from the previous total. He stated that in 2018 we did a full-blown market analysis and rebid all of the Authority's policies. He said that in 2019 we awarded a contract a three-year contract with two one-year options, reducing that year's cost to \$514,000 from \$655,000 in 2019. He explained that reductions continued until this year when it increased because of a rise in the coverage's cyber security premium component due to the impact of the ParkMobile breach. He advised that it is our intention to go out to market with an RFP in 2024 with the expectation of keeping the insurances we currently have in place until that time because we are satisfied with the services currently being provided. He said that means we are likely to authorize extension of the second-year option as provided for in the current contract. He advised that we added active shooter coverage in 2020. Mr. Onorato introduced Mr. McCall, the Authority's Insurance Broker who he reported had reached out to the various insurance providers to obtain and negotiate rate information.

Mr. McCall thanked Mr. Onorato and said that since we went to market in 2018, insurance costs have since increased significantly. He said that, additionally, we increased the cyber insurance, from \$1 million to \$5 million, increased our public official's coverage and added \$5 million to our umbrella coverage and continued the active shooter coverage we had added earlier. He advised that, given current market conditions, our program is very robust, with the most problematic area being its cyber security portion of the policy. Mr. Onorato said that the new coverage levels are in accordance with professional guidance and said he recommends going forward with them as proposed.

Mr. Cohen asked the insurer sources of the coverages.

Mr. Onorato responded that the process includes various insurance companies depending on the type of insurance and said they are each listed on the spreadsheet attached to the resolution.

Mr. McCall advised that he acts as risk manager for all of the policies and said he has done so for the last 20 years. He advised that he makes sure that the brokers' terms, conditions and resources are appropriate to the needs of the Parking Authority.

Mr. Cohen asked if there was any questions or comments.

There were none.

Upon motion by Mr. Barron and seconded by Mr. Wilson, Resolution No. 29 of 2021 was approved as follows: Mr. Barron, yes; Mr. Wilson, yes; Mr. Cohen, yes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 30 OF DECEMBER 2021, "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PURCHASE A SECURITY CAMERA SYSTEM FROM ASCC FOR INSTALLATION AT THE FORBES/SHADY PARKING LOT,** was read by Mr. Cohen and considered by the Board.

Mr. Onorato asked for clarification that the Forbes/Shady Lot was located in Squirrel Hill and not Shadyside.

Mr. Holt stated that the lot has been identified as Forbes/Shady for years but said that is located in Squirrel Hill and serves that market location.

Mr. Onorato responded that it is located in Squirrel Hill and that we are taking advantage of an opportunity to install these cameras, stating that we were approached by Crown Castle, the firm working to provide internet service to a building adjacent to the lot. He stated that in order to install that service it was necessary to trench our lot and add electric lines leading to our light poles. He said that work was done at the firm's cost and noted that it will also cover the costs to line stripe the entire lot once the work is concluded. He advised that with the infrastructure work now complete, we can install cameras at the entrance and exits of the lot. Mr. Onorato advised that the total camera costs would not exceed \$30,000.

Mr. Wilson asked what type of activity was occurring in the lot that led us think we should have security cameras.

Mr. Onorato responded that there was no particular event or activities that prompted the action, but said the project offered the opportunity to install cameras similar to those we have throughout our garage facilities. He also said we are looking at the possibility of enabling these cameras to read license plates to assist with enforcement and can also be employed to inform us that the lot is full or report on the status of paid-for spaces relative to the lot's full operating capacity. He advised that we are currently working with a firm that will be piloting this camera technology in three Authority lots, again at no cost to our organization.

Mr. Wilson asked if we are adding \$30,000 to the contract and if there will any costs to operate the cameras.

Mr. Onorato responded that we have no involvement in the contract. He advised that there was an agreement with Crown Castle and it has already laid the power lines in the trench and brought power to our light poles. He advised, however, that the purchase and installation of the cameras would be at our cost.

Mr. McNaugher added that the only continuing costs would be the power costs to the poles but said it should be minimal as it is for just five cameras on five light poles.

Mr. Barron asked if these cameras are monitored and, if so, by Authority staff or a third party. He also asked if we are planning to extend camera installation to all of our surface lots or if this is just a unique opportunity since this work was already being done there.

Mr. Onorato responded that the cameras will not be monitored by either Authority staff or a third party. He advised that they will be recording information that can be accessed if it is needed. He also advised that we will be looking to add cameras to other lots throughout the city and said we are working with the Wise-Sight organization on a pilot program to install cameras in three of our lots to monitor activity, record data and enhance enforcement at those locations.

Mr. Cohen asked if there was any questions or comments.

There were none.

Upon motion by Mr. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Barron, Resolution No. 30 of 2021 was approved as follows: Mr. Barron, yes; Mr. Wilson, yes; Mr. Cohen, yes.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Cohen asked if there were any new or old matters to discuss.

Mr. Wilson advised that the City will be working closely with the Authority on the new RPP legislation that just passed City Council and said it could possibly involve adding a new administrator. He noted that this legislation updated the RPP code and included changes that will make permits more accessible to various entities. He thanked Mr. Onorato, Ms. Bolden and Director Dash for their efforts. He advised that any activity regarding the curbside portion of this legislation will be overseen by DOMI and said it will be responsible for completing the parking studies.

Mr. Onorato responded that we have been in contact with Director Dash at the City and are working with our vendors to obtain cost data to set rates for various passes such as for medical, contractor access and other appropriate access.

Mr. Wilson stated that hopefully we can get some neighborhoods on board for hybrid opportunities to create additional revenues.

Ms. Bolden thanked Mr. Wilson for his assistance and stated that we look forward to the working with his office on the implementation of any changes that are adopted.

Mr. Wilson stated that these changes will help with enforcement in general and noted that those involving recertification requirement every two years for each district will no longer be required. He said that would help make the enforcement of this RPP code more clear.

Mr. Onorato asked Mr. Wilson that once everything is finalized in Council if the Authority get a copy of the completed official legislation.

Mr. Wilson responded that he will forward a copy to the Authority and he will be reaching out to coordinate a meeting to discuss the changes and their implementation.

Mr. Onorato advised that there is an Executive Session scheduled for today following this meeting.

Mr. Cohen wished everyone a great holiday season, thanked them for their hard work and dedication and asked if there were any additional new or old matters to discuss.

There were none.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 a.m. with all Board members in approval.

APPROVED TO CONTENT

  
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Chairman

ACCEPTED FOR FILING IN THE AUTHORITY'S BOOK OF  
MINUTES

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Approval

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