

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
PUBLIC PARKING AUTHORITY OF PITTSBURGH  
THURSDAY AUGUST 15, 2024**

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 10:02 a.m. on August 15, 2024. The following Board members were present at the start of the meeting: Liz Fishback, Kim Lucas, Bobby Wilson, Bob Palmosina and Sean Luther. Present from staff were David Onorato, Chris Holt, Christopher Speers, Jodi Hart, Jo-Ann Williams, Karla Howell, Matt Jendrzewski, Scott McNaugher, David Perry, Matt Engleson, Kathryn Van Why, Bob Wilson, Karla Turzak, Tracy Sowinski, Hanna Rupenski and Patricia Konesky. Also present were Nathan Clark of Buchanan, Ingersoll & Rooney and Alison Keating.

**MINUTES**

Ms. Fishback asked for approval of the minutes from the July 18, 2024, meeting.

Upon motion by Mr. Luther and seconded by Mr. Palmosina, the minutes were approved as follows: Ms. Lucas, yes; Mr. Wilson, yes; Mr. Palmosina, yes; Mr. Luther, yes; Ms. Fishback, yes.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Ms. Fishback asked if there were any public comments.

There were none.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Onorato updated the Board on the progress of the upgrade to the new Residential Permit Parking Program portal, stating that it is about 90 percent complete, and stated we anticipate having it up and running by Monday August 26, with a possible soft opening prior to that date. He stated that it is much more customer friendly, and we are pleased with the new portal.

Mr. Onorato updated the Board on the Smart Loading Zone and Stationary Cameras projects with Automotus. He advised that working with the city this has been expanded into bike lanes and no-stopping, no-parking zones within the Downtown and Strip District areas. He advised that warning tickets have been issued for these violations in the last few weeks and advised that everything has been going well.

Mr. Onorato asked that the Board Members reach out to the Authority to schedule a meeting in October to review the proposed 2025 budget.

Mr. Onorato discussed the Finance Report, stating that gross revenues in July were \$4.1 million and noted that both the meter and garage revenues have increased but that revenues are down approximately \$500,000 from the 2019 pre-covid base year. He stated that revenues are moving in the right direction. He advised that year to date revenues were \$28.9 million and increase of \$2 million from 2023's year to date total and \$6 million from pre-covid numbers. He advised that the \$28.9 million year to date is slightly above our budgeted number for the year.

Mr. Onorato discussed the Cashflow Budget Report, which shows revenues at \$4,100,000 for July 2024 which is approximately \$600,000 down the 2019 pre-covid base year. He advised that meter revenues are coming back a little stronger than the garage revenue, but all still trending in the right direction. He noted that pre-covid garages had a 98 percent utilization rate and currently are at 70-72 percent utilization.

Mr. Onorato discussed the Facilities Report, which shows garage revenues at \$2.3 million year to date, up from \$2.2 million in 2024. He noted that Mellon Square revenue is down due to the ongoing construction where we are averaging just over 200 lost spaces per day during that construction. He noted that this is the sixth garage owned by the Parking Authority that has had major rehab done to it. He advised that Shadyside's revenue are down and that is due to the decline in activities in the surrounding area. He advised that revenues for the month of July were \$16 million, up from the \$15 million in July of 2023. He noted that the Mon Wharf was showing a decrease in revenue and attributed it to flooding events this year.

Mr. Onorato discussed the Enforcement Violation Report, stating that there were just under 2,000 tickets issued by mail through the Automotus pilot program for smart loading zones and the WiseSight program utilizing stationary camera enforcement in two of our surface lots in the South Side area. He advised that meter violations account for about 50 percent of the total monthly violations, noting that there were 130,000 tickets issued for the 2024 year-to-date.

Ms. Lucas asked how the 130,000 tickets compare to previous years.

Mr. Onorato replied that tickets are down about 3,000 from this time last year.

Ms. Lucas asked why this would be if there were now two methods of automated enforcement.

Mr. Onorato responded that it is directly due to staffing, as this year we have only 20 full-time and 5 part-time officers on staff and with this being summertime, there are officers scheduled for vacations. He advised that with ticket-by-mail we are hoping that the effect is that compliance goes up as tickets decrease.

Mr. Onorato discussed the Street & Lot Revenue Report, stating that we are street revenues are slightly higher than the past two years, lot revenues were steady and noted that smart loading zones tickets decreased hopefully due to an increase in compliance.

Mr. Onorato discussed the Parking Court Report, noting that revenues collected were approximately \$750,000, a slight increase from 2023. He advised that revenues through July 2024 were \$5.5 million compared to \$5.7 million last year and he hopes that the gap of the difference of 200,000 will be closed by the end of the year.

**RESOLUTION NO. 23 OF AUGUST 2024, “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH DESMAN, INC. FOR THE DESIGN OF TWO NEW PUBLIC RESTROOMS IN THE MELLON SQUARE PARKING GARAGE”**, was read by Ms. Fishback and considered by the Board.

Mr. Onorato advised the Board that the city administration is aware that we are in the process of a major rehab project at the Mellon Square Garage and that the commercial storefronts were all turned over to the city, so we are no longer in charge of those spaces. He advised that the city inquired that since we have a contractor on-site already if we could have our engineer and architectural design two restrooms in the vacant commercial space that we could hand off to our on-site contractor to complete the work. He stated that this work would then be reimbursed to the Authority by the City using the American Rescue Plan Funds. He noted that the following resolution is to authorize an agreement with the City for the transfer of those funds. He also noted that if everything goes through and the work is completed it will be the Responsibility of the City to operate and maintain the public restroom spaces.

Ms. Fishback asked if there were any additional questions or comments.

There were none.

Upon motion by Mr. Luther and seconded by Mr. Lucas, Resolution No. 23 of 2024 was approved as follows: Ms. Lucas, yes; Mr. Wilson, yes; Mr. Palmosina, yes; Mr. Luther, yes; Ms. Fishback, yes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 24 OF AUGUST 2024, “A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF PITTSBURGH FOR THE RECEIPT OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDS**, was read by Mr. Luther and considered by the Board.

Mr. Onorato advised that this Resolution relates back to Resolution No. 23 which is for the design work and the actual work for the creation of two public restrooms at the Mellon Square Garage storefront area and we would enter into an agreement with the city to be paid the \$1.6 million from the City and of that amount \$80,000 would be used for EV Chargers throughout the Authority's system and the remaining balance would be used for the rehabilitation of the commercial spaces at the Mellon Square garage.

Mr. Luther asked if the EV Chargers would be available to the public.

Mr. Onorato confirmed that they would be available to the public.

Ms. Fishback asked if there were any questions or comments.

There were none.

Upon motion by Mr. Wilson and seconded by Ms. Lucas, Resolution No. 24 of 2024 was approved as follows: Ms. Lucas, yes; Mr. Wilson, yes; Mr. Palmosina, yes; Mr. Luther, yes; Ms. Fishback, yes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 25 OF AUGUST 2024, "A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO PURCHASE TWO NEW FLEET VEHICLES FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF ENFORCEMENT,"** was read by Ms. Lucas and considered by the Board.

Mr. Onorato thanked the Board for their discussions last month regarding the purchase of two vehicles and resulting from that discussion confirmed that we are able to purchase two hybrid vehicles. He advised that we try to replace vehicles on a rotating basis based on condition and include this purchase in our budget process, and we are asking for authorization to purchase two Ford Hybrid vehicles for the Department of Enforcement at a cost not-to-exceed \$67,912 plus an additional \$2500 for the decals associated with those vehicles with funds being taken from the Capital Improvement Fund.

Ms. Fishback thank the Authority's team for indulging the Board's concerns and going back to the drawing board and performing additional research and stated they are grateful.

Mr. Luther stated that he also had the opportunity to speak with Mr. Holt and was very thankful for their assistance. He mentioned that he believes that there should be some type of adjustment to the procurement process going forward, nothing that is immediate so that there is something upfront that dictates fuel transmission and how we can use the Authority to demonstrate that infrastructure around the City.

Mr. Onorato responded that we will look into his suggestion.

Ms. Fishback asked if there were any questions or comments.

There were none.

Upon motion by Mr. Wilson and seconded by Mr. Lucas, Resolution No. 25 of 2024 was approved as follows: Ms. Lucas, yes; Mr. Wilson, yes; Mr. Palmosina, yes; Mr. Luther, yes; Ms. Fishback, yes.

**RESOLUTION NO. 26 OF AUGUST 2024, “A RESOLUTION RATIFYING AN EMERGENCY PROCUREMENT FOR CONTRACTING SERVICES NEEDED FOR FIRE STRUCTURE REMEDIATION AT THE FIRST AVENUE GARAGE AND STATION,** was read by Mr. Wilson and considered by the Board.

Mr. Onorato advised the Board that there was significant damage to the First Avenue Garage resulting from a vehicle fire which damaged the structure resulting in immediate closure. He advised that an engineer was brought in to identify if there was any structural damage and to place temporary shoring. He advised that some of the shoring has been removed and that core drilling was completed to determine the extent of the damage which will determine what scope of repair is needed. He advised that we have already retained Desman Inc. to complete the engineering evaluation and on their recommendation retained Carl Walker Construction to place the shoring. He advised that the engineering costs for Desman’s services are \$11,350 and Carl Walker Construction \$41,484 and once the testing results are received any modifications or additional repairs will be presented to the Board for approval.

Ms. Fishback asked if there were any questions or comments.

There were none.

Upon motion by Ms. Lucas and seconded by Ms. Fishback, Resolution No. 26 of 2024 was approved as follows: Ms. Lucas, yes; Mr. Wilson, yes; Mr. Palmosina, yes; Mr. Luther, yes; Ms. Fishback, yes.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Ms. Fishback asked if there were any old business matters to discuss.

There were none.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Fishback asked if there were any new business matters to discuss.

Mr. Onorato advised the Board that there was a recent article in the news regarding the Authority's Ninth & Penn site and the recommendations from the City and the Pittsburgh Downtown Partnership to make this a green space including our site. He advised that he has a meeting scheduled with the city administration to get further details.

There were none.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 a.m. with all the Board expressing their approval.

**APPROVED TO CONTENT**

DocuSigned by:  
*Elizabeth Fishback*  
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**Chairman**

**ACCEPTED FOR FILING IN THE AUTHORITY'S BOOK OF MINUTES**

Signed by:  
  
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**Approval**