

Ordinance Committee Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> 2015 4:00pm  
Council Chambers—Town Hall

Present: Ethan Croce, Nathan Poore, Karen Farber, David Goldberg, Caleb Hemphill, Kimberly Darling, Clifford Gilpin (home-owners association), Lance Meader

**1. Review Parking control ordinance and options for regulating or restricting parking on Farm Gate Road**

The Town Council had this issue brought up and now it is before the Ordinance Committee. Concerns amongst residents about completely removing parking on Farm Gate Rd for personal use. Andrews Avenue—parking ban no parking between May and October—may be one approach. Everything off of Farm Gate is private road and would be the responsibility of the neighborhood association to post. Sunset is an option.

Farm Gate approximately ½ mile. The beginning of the road is easy to control with signage. Can park overnight in Falmouth except when there are snow bans.

Clifford Gilpin inquired about hours of being able to park. Police to enforce becomes cumbersome. The busiest time is on the weekends. Only concerned about the beginning of the road.

Ethan discussed parking in the street right of way but separate from the existing roadway. The plan has not been before the Planning Board as of yet.

What are the general concerns? That the commercial enterprise will move into the neighborhood. Noise, traffic driving. Concern about the locality of the restaurant and the convenience of parking on the street for patrons.

The number of parking spaces and the drive access will be left with the Planning Board. The Ordinance Committee will determine where to restrict and allow parking.

Signage to restrict people from parking on Marigold Rd.

*Rivalries* is in the planning board and permitting process which will take several months. One option is to let the construction play out and see what happens and see if there is a problem.

Discussed Hat Trick Drive and how that will influence the situation. Given the size of the lot and the concerns of the neighborhoods, it may make sense to address those. The Council should restrict parking before it becomes finalized in the Planning Board.

Discussion on where to restrict parking on Farm Gate Rd. The Planning Board will be reviewing the plans to ensure there is still the green space and buffers. Discussion of where to site the on street built parking spots and where to beginning to restrict parking on Farm Gate Rd. Minor changes can be brought back to the Planning Board as a condition of their approval.

Planning Board to accommodate parking design in the future, if they weren't putting on street parking on Farm Gate now. This probably won't be the first time running about on requests like these or this type of issue with the vision the Town Council adopted for this district.

Buffer area to protect the entire road with no parking signs. Vision to encourage on-street parking.

One of the concerns is safety—only going to be able to have parking on one side of the street, so it will not restrict vehicles from passing one another in the travel lane.

In the Ordinance there needs to be language on footage and signage. The Planning Board will bring the matter back to the Ordinance Committee with an approval, where the Ordinance Committee will then draft the Ordinance.

Being proposed is to limit parking up to a certain point. What if it doesn't solve the problem, then what? Come back and change the ordinance and relocate the signs—would be a three meeting process for the Council. Introduction, public hearing, decision.

The majority of folks who live on Farm Gate are willing to have a complete ban on parking.

## **2. Reusable Bag Ordinance Discussion**

### **A. Discussion of next steps and timeline**

### **B. Other updates** (if the committee wishes to discuss this matter beyond the discussion about next steps and the timeline)

Motion to accept the minutes from last meeting. Discussion of a plastic bag/disposable bag Ordinance in Falmouth. One thing that was discussed last time was not specific to our ordinance, but more about Portland is about to start their ordinance and they will learn a lot in the next 18 months, of the economics, retailers and consumer thoughts etc. How would we do that learning? Who would we talk to?

There is no need to hold up from learning in Falmouth and working with the businesses directly to educate about a potential fee/ban regulation. Portland is right next store; the experience they will go through will go noticed by residents in Falmouth.

Scope? Meet with businesses to discuss how this would affect them.

Discussed the survey question of "what do you do with the plastic bags?" To measure the effectiveness of an educational campaign it may be beneficial to have a pre and post survey.

Business outreach could begin now but is there a hold on the public component? It is recommended to wait and learn from Portland while educational continues. This would be more politically feasible option.

Going to pay attention to Portland's regulation and revisit this in June.