

To: **Mayor and City Council**
Through: **Ryan Schroeder, City Manager**
From: **Manila Shaver, Chief of Police**
Date: **March 11, 2019**

City Code Modification, Temporary No Parking, Chapter 72

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

At a previous Council meeting, a citizen made a comment about a St. Paul program whereby a resident possessing an obstruction permit could obtain temporary no parking signs and place them by their residence to prohibit parking. This might be done to ensure ample street space for a dumpster or some other use. Placing an object in the public right of way requires an obstruction permit, which can be applied for on line. Currently, for obstruction permit holders, there is no ordinance or language to ensure space in the public right of way. While the engineering department has stated they have not noticed this to be a significant issue, during the past few years there has been an increase in parking issues in the City.

This suggestion was brought to the Council's attention at the February 25, 2019 Open Council Work Session. At that time, the Council suggested language to include residents having special events (graduations, wedding receptions, etc.) and the City incurring the cost of the signs and labor to post them.

In working with the City Attorney the attached draft language has been prepared for a First Reading. Listed below are the highlights of the proposed language:

- ✓ Having no or permit parking signs is voluntary and not required. However, without such signs, the police department cannot remove a vehicle deemed to be blocking;
- ✓ The property owner must submit a written request to the City in a timely manner;
- ✓ The no or permit parking area needs to be adjacent to the owner's property;
- ✓ The no or permit parking area may extend to the adjoining property owners upon their written permission;
- ✓ No parking is limited to two weeks or less; permit parking is limited to the time frame of the event;
- ✓ At a minimum, two no or permit parking signs must be posted, a supplementary sign is needed for every additional 20 feet;
- ✓ Objects placed in the public right away must conform to the City's Right Away Obstruction Ordinance;
- ✓ No parking requests for Right of Way obstructions will not be granted from December 1st through February 28th as no permits are issued during this time frame for snow removal purposes;
- ✓ Snow emergency declarations take precedent over permit parking requests; and
- ✓ No and permit parking requests may be denied for public safety reasons or other good cause.

Temporary No Parking - In general, a resident will make a written request for no parking. The police department would meet with the property owner and post the signs. Should a vehicle be blocking, the police would have the authority to tow.

Temporary Permit Parking – A resident will be having an event and wants to ensure ample parking for his/her guests. The resident makes a written request for temporary permit parking. For appropriate events, the police department would meet with the property owner and post the signs. The resident is provided with an ample amount of windshield stickers for the guests. As guests park they will need to post a permit on their vehicle. A vehicle parked in violation and brought to the attention to the police department by the applicant, may be subject to towing.

In both cases above, the responding officer would make significant attempts to locate the owner of the offending vehicle in order to have it moved without having to tow it.

FISCAL IMPACT:

- Signs - \$55 for 20 signs or \$2.75 each
- Stakes – \$5.33 for 6 four foot stakes or \$0.89 each
- Application processing, posting, enforcement and sign removal – about an hour total/event or approximately \$35/event
- Estimated number of requests – 6 to 10 per year
- Estimated total budget impact – Less than \$500; 5 hours of labor
- It was suggested the City absorb this expense and not charge a fee to an applicant

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Review the draft ordinance language, providing staff with comments and suggestions. If appropriate, instruct staff to present the proposed language for a Second reading at the Council's March 25, 2019 Council meeting.