

TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes of Thursday, December 1, 2022 #2022-8

Village of Oak Lawn

Village Hall Auditorium

9446 Raymond Avenue Oak Lawn Illinois 60453

I. ROLL CALL: Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.

A. **Chairman:** Norm Lupescu

B. **Commissioners:** Carrie O’Keefe Ted Sochacki
John Cody Andy Skoundrianos
Ken Nork (*ABS*) Norm Lupescu
Drew Butler

C. **Staff:** Donald E. McKenna, Building & Zoning Administrator
Dennis Skoda, Public Works Department
Ofc. Mark Hollingsworth, Oak Lawn Police Department
Deanne Adasiak, Recording Secretary

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Lupescu.

III. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MEETING MINUTES:

A motion to approve the Meeting Minutes #2022-7 – November 3, 2022 was made by Commissioner Skoundrianos and seconded by Commissioner Lupescu.

Roll call: Lupescu, yes; Skoundrianos, yes; Sochacki, yes; Butler, abstain; Cody, yes; O’Keefe, yes.

Motion to approve passes: 5-0-1.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

A.) **TC-1299 – Request for Residential Parking only on the East side of Tulley between 96th and Museum Drive (tabled from 11-3-22):**

Ms. Lenore Goodfriend, 5100 West 96th Street, #234, Oak Lawn, Illinois

Ms. Evelina Dziedzic, 5100 West 96th Street, #436, Oak Lawn, Illinois

Commissioner Lupescu commented about the return of this agenda item. He explained that the Arbor Court residents are requesting more parking for visitors such as caregivers and people working at the property. He acknowledged the residents' concerns, specifically that Advocate employees take up all of the available street parking.

Commissioner Lupescu mentioned that there is an Ordinance specific to a parking agreement between the Village of Oak Lawn and Advocate. Mr. McKenna stated that he pulled the Ordinance relating to parking on Tulley. His recommendation is that we do not interfere with that particular parking Ordinance. Mr. McKenna proposed reserving six parking spaces in front of Arbor Court for the building's residents only. Mr. McKenna also mentioned that if the restriction is changed, would have residents pick up temporary parking passes that are provided by the Village for friends and family.

Commissioner Lupescu stated that 51st Street offers ample parking. Ms. Goodfriend asked Commissioner Lupescu if he is referring to the dead end street. Yes, said Commissioner Lupescu. Commissioner Lupescu mentioned that there are parking signs in that area that read "No Parking 6:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.". He suggests removing those signs and replacing them with "Residential Only" parking signs. According to Commissioner Lupescu, there are also parking signs on 96th Street that read "Residential Parking 1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m."

Ms. Goodfriend explained that their petition request was specific to parking on the east side of Tulley between 96th and Museum Drive because that is what was available to the Arbor Court residents prior to the construction of Advocate. Ms. Goodfriend went on to discuss the history of parking spaces before the clinic was built. She mentioned that once the Advocate building was finished, the Village not only provided Advocate with parking spaces in the parking tower, but also with twenty-seven (27) street parking spaces. She stated that there are eleven (11) designated parking spaces on 96th Street, six (6) on the west side of Tulley, and ten (10) across the street. She stated that per Ordinance, this is promised to Advocate.

Ms. Goodfriend expressed concern about Arbor Court building's lack of available parking spaces for visitors. She claims that Advocate uses all of the street parking and rarely uses the parking tower. She expressed her surprise that Advocate pays for one hundred and five (105) parking tower spaces that are not being used. She mentioned that one day she counted only four cars on the parking tower's top floor. Ms. Goodfriend indicated that the Arbor Court residents are only requesting to reclaim six (6) of the thirteen (13) street parking spaces. Ms. Goodfriend stated that there is plenty of parking in the parking tower and that it is a very convenient area for Advocate employees and she does not understand why they do not use it. Ms. Goodfriend mentioned that the Arbor Court building has 84 units. She stated that they pay a lot of taxes and that her taxes are nearly \$8,000. She said she does not understand why the hospital benefits from street parking and believes that Arbor Court residents' concerns should be addressed. Ms. Goodfriend also stated that she is the original owner of Arbor Court and that she attended all of the meetings regarding the construction of Advocate. Advocate, she believes, should make use of the parking tower. She contends that when work needs to be done in any of the Arbor Court units, the workers have nowhere to park.

Commissioner Lupescu advised Ms. Goodfriend that residents should contact the Police Department when there is work at the property. Officer Hollingsworth agreed. He stated that the Police Department can impose a temporary moratorium to prevent anyone from being ticketed. He said it only takes a phone call. Ms. Goodfriend expressed frustration with having to contact the Police Department every time there is work at their property. Ms. Goodfriend

reiterated that there are benefits for Advocate employees, but that the Arbor Court residents are inconvenienced.

Commissioner Lupescu asked staff if the parking spaces on the north side of 96th Street and Tulley could be considered. He asked whether the current parking restrictions could be lifted. Mr. McKenna proposed the 6-7 parking spaces between the two driveways on the north side of the street.

Mr. Skoda expressed his thoughts on the current parking restrictions. He pointed out that there are three to four different parking codes in place as a result of the commuter lot over the last 36 years. The discussion on the current parking restrictions continued. Commissioner Lupescu proposed dedicating the area on 51st Street (at the dead end) to Arbor Court only. Mr. McKenna expressed that this could cause problems for residents on 51st Street, across from Arbor Court.

Commissioner Sochacki suggested that the Village issue permits to Arbor Court residents. Ms. Goodfriend responded that restricting parking to residents only disregards their primary concern of visitor parking. She asked if the residents must contact the Village if workers park on the north side of the street.

Commissioner Skoundrianos questioned why Advocate does not require their employees to park in the parking tower. Mr. McKenna said he is not sure and pointed out that the street parking restriction is for "Non Commuter Parking," and the Advocate employees are not in violation. He advised that this Board take the path of least resistance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Lupescu for parking signs for "Residents of Arbor Court on the north side of 96th Street from Tulley to 51st Avenue and also parking signs on the west side of 51st Avenue at the 9500 block. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Skoundrianos.

Roll call: O'Keefe, yes; Cody, yes; Butler, yes; Sochacki, yes; Skoundrianos, yes; Lupescu, yes.

Motion passes: 6-0.

Mr. McKenna reminded Ms. Goodfriend that the Traffic Safety Committee is a recommending body and that this petition will now move to the Board of Trustees.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS:

A.) Chairman: *None.*

B.) Commissioners: *None.*

C.) Staff: *None.*

VII. ADJOURNMENT:

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Cody and was seconded by Commissioner Lupescu.

Voice Vote: All in favor, aye.

Motion to adjourn passes. The meeting ended at 7:55 p.m.