

M E M O R A N D U M

To: Tom Harmer, Town Manager
From: Pete Cumming, Police Chief
Frank Rubino, Deputy Police Chief
Report date: September 29, 2020
Meeting date: October 5, 2020
Subject: Ordinance 2020-12, Amending Chapter 72, Parking, Fines

Recommended Action

Forward Ordinance 2020-12 to the October 5, 2020, Regular Meeting for second reading and public hearing.

Background

Over the past 6 months the staff has received feedback on the amount of a parking ticket on Longboat Key. This has been highlighted with the impact of overflow parking and increased ticketing for illegal parking as a result of the pandemic. The impact has in part been the result of beach goers coming onto the island due to overflow from the Anna Maria Island communities as beaches and parking have been restricted in those areas.

The Town's current parking fine is \$30 and was last increased in 2014. As part of the review of Town Code Chapter 72, staff also identified changes needed related to the updated the parking ticket appeal process. The changes proposed in Ordinance 2020-12 have been developed in collaboration with the Town Attorney and reviewed with the Finance and Planning, Zoning, Building Director for input.

As part of our review, we surveyed the surrounding municipalities in Sarasota and Manatee County, listed below. Based upon that review, we recommend the fine for parking in time-restricted areas, unlawful parking, or parking where parking is prohibited (except parking spaces designated for use by disabled persons) increase from \$30 to \$75.

- Holmes Beach Parking Fine \$50.
(considering fine increase to \$75 on September 22, 2020)
- Bradenton Beach Parking Fine \$75
- City of Sarasota Parking Fine \$35
- City of Venice parking Fine \$30

The current Code refers to a hearing before a Sarasota or Manatee County judge or magistrate. Those services are not available to the Town, so our updated process is being included as part of this Ordinance. The current process provides for a preliminary parking citation review, parking citation contest, notice of hearing, cancel or continuance of hearings, and payment of citations and/or

penalties. This language is modeled after the City of Bradenton's current appeal process.

Commissioners received a request from a resident on Lyon's Lane to exempt their street from parking fines due to inaccessibility associated with street and driveway flooding. The police department has not and does not intend to ticket Lyons Lane residents for parking vehicles at alternative locations during high tide events. The staff has followed up with the resident and also offered to work with the residents on any parking concerns and options during flood conditions. We not recommend any change to this Ordinance to address this issue.

Pending Commission adoption of Ordinance 2020-12, the Police Department is prepared to have new parking citations printed with the proper Ordinance reference and verbiage required by the State and Clerks of Court. All required computer tracking systems are ready to be implemented along with changing the Police Department's tracking system.

For a copy of Ordinance 2020-12, please contact Trish Shinkle, Town Clerk at tshinkle@longboatkey.org or call 941-316-1999, x 1310. (The Ordinance is not ADA compliant for website publication purposes due to it's legislative format.)

Staff Recommendation

Forward Ordinance 2020-12 to the October 5, 2020, Regular Meeting for second reading and public hearing.

Attachments

Ordinance 2020-12, Amending Chapter 72, Parking, Fines (available in Town Clerk's Office)

End of Agenda Item