

## **BOLTON NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEETING January 16, 2018**

**7:04 pm, meeting gaveled to order by President Steve Miesen.**

Present: about 24 attendees (7 is a quorum); Mayor Axelrod; Chairwoman NAP, Gail Holmes

Amend Agenda Proposal: Motion to accept the amendment to the posted Agenda. Motion seconded and passed with a preponderance of votes.

### 1. Study of Annexation Costs to Taxpayers

When city annexes what is the cost to us the taxpayers? Developers pay a very large System Development Charge (SDC) to compensate for some for the costs of water and sewer. But there are some things unfunded by the SDC that comes back to the taxpayer. School, FD, anything that ends up as a bond on our tax bill when the cost of growth is unmet.

Other NAs want a new study to update the numbers from over 12 years ago. \$600.00 coming back to BNA, and we help fund the study for an extra \$400 dollars for our contribution of \$1,000 to a neighborhood association community supported study. Opened for discussion.

Any other NAs support this? So far only one NA has contributed Savannah Oaks. Willamette and Robinwood voted no according to Chairwoman of NAP. Does study include data, relevant to SDCs? WL has one of the higher rates of SDC. For a typical home is 47k, yet we subsidize the buffer. We are off loading costs onto the existing tax base for the unmet need.

From 12 years ago, which is the current basis of the annexation fees, the fees were not raised for 8 years since the Mayor Dodds council. City has lost millions of dollars according to the speaker's telling. Suggestion: Charter should have this as an amendment to do this study. Let's study this and support it.

Discussion got off topic. Register Complaint requests no questions or comments toward the Mayor. Mayor talked about what they did at earlier council meetings and was pointed out that was off topic.

Request for more information. Defer to future meeting for more information. Current costs per home is about 15\$ according to Mayor Axelrod.

The presenter pointed out that at one time the code directed that the city had to do this annexation SDC fees updates, but it was cut out in the *Cut The Red Tape* process. Today we are asking for funding for full disclosure of the costs of annexation to the taxpayer.

### 2. November Minutes

Read by Jenni Romano at request of VP due to VP's sore throat.

Clarifications to November Minutes: Mixed Use meeting is only on Chapter 59: Historic mixed use. That use is in Willamette now. The other three city economic centers will be affected eventually. Bolton is one of the three economic centers.

Broadway bridge to be taken out for widening. Motion to accept the minutes as read and clarified. Motion seconded and passed with a preponderance of votes.

### 3. West A area Parking Permit Discussion

**(Each paragraph is a different speaker unless indicated)**

Since fence taken out at Easy Street it has become a very high traffic area. If we let kids park there it will lower our property values. I am against the change. The kids smoke in my patio house. High School (HS) elected not to address years ago. Our neighborhood should not suffer. If property value goes down then the city needs to reimburse us. If have to accept other than what there is, then at least two spaces per block, but dead set against it.

Question directed to the Mayor: what is your solution trying to fix? Are not the buses running anymore? My neighborhood is disrupted, but the city is not policing. No enforcement. Those problems will continue: garbage, racing up and down streets, little kids, what is the problem you are trying to solve?

I pick up garbage and put it in bags onto the front porch of the high school. We see this stuff. I don't mind them walking by. But when they throw soda pop cans on the street. I ask them to pick it up and they do then. It is not right. If we stop this permit thing, the city can't do anything about that (*the students' litter and parking on private property*) because it is private property. If you don't expand it to that (*enforcement on private property*); the kids don't care. Some do.

This needs to be addressed with the school district. The civics class discussed this issue, and the speaker's daughter had to stand up for the neighborhood. Neighbors charge for parking in driveways, but that is not legal. Cannot charge to park on property. Student offered to pay me. Strong that this parking problem is a school district issue. City Council needs to not do it by themselves.

They throw cigarette butts in my flower bed.

Blatant disregard for the signs.

What is the issue? The objections we have been hearing safety, noise, garbage, is no different when back in 1995 when ordinance was changed. What is the problem this discussion will resolve? There is a parking problem. Due to (*West Linn*) socio-economic area kids have cars and want to drive them. What obligation does the school have to take care of the parking? Is the solution to take away a privilege? What happens to the cars that are parked on West A on a normal day?

Issue is parking.

The zone is an integrated part in the area to enhance safety. The study (*Mayor proposed that city public works measures the number of parking spaces that can be made along residential property facing the streets*) is to chop it up. Keep things as they are.

Seen the drugs, sex in the cars, and concerned about the safety of the students. There is an Oxford House on our street. Somebody is going to get robbed or worse. There are all kinds of weird people passing up over from Oregon City.

Too much traffic already. Steep driveways. If we had parking along there, then the bike lane becomes a sidewalk. West A street has a lot of bicyclists. Kids too. No safety backing out. Garbage cans, what happens then? Getting rear ended (*while backing out*) is risk.

The parking for students is part of infrastructure for high school. Parking lots pretty well-lit unlike West A street. Letting students park on West A will probably not alleviate the parking problem. There is not enough for everyone who wants to park. There are three homes across from the HS have been for sale. The school district could purchase them to create infrastructure for the students, but there are no lights on West A. It is very dark.

My biggest problem is that the HS has been silent. The HS has not made a single statement to address this. This has been a problem for years and they should have bought the properties. It is not our issue; it is a HS issue. It is not a right to drive. But there is no activity bus. The kids are angry at us, but should be at the school system. It is the school district's problem. How does Rory have standing to sue the city for parking! Someone is going to get run over in the crosswalk. I am scared I will hit someone. If you add cars it raises the risk. But we are not getting any parking enforcement. But pushing the responsibility on us is ridiculous.

Two police came down and they said it was not their job. The community service enforcement responded only when called. We are talking about granting privileges to driving to HS students.

The School District (SD) could and should make their permit system as a car pool unit.

At Wisonville HS there are long lines for the buses. Just going to buses. Well organized.

Transportation access, environmental impacts, trash, removing Broadway the pressure on West A and 43 becomes extraordinary. More than 400 drivers than spots. 30 permits shy last year. Seniors. Who gets it, why you are chosen is part of the process inside the school itself. This is a good system for me. Some opportunity for incubation comments for students. Creation of a fund for solving this. Give the students the chance to come up with alternatives to driving. Congestion is grave. I would like to solve this, but have no problem with more parking zone. SD needs take a more active status.

We are good citizens, good neighbors. We put up with all the HS activities. We do it without complaint, but to ask us to do more is rubbing salt in the wound. At some point there has to be a line. Safety. We have little children trying to navigate the streets, without sidewalks with speeding drivers. Nobody is talking about them. They have a right for a safe place to live, a right to get to their buses safely. What is the primary thing? The primary is making sure the whole neighborhood is safe for everyone including the children. We have lots of families with young children in this area BOLTON. It is time for the district to do its part. The city's job is to protect all citizens. They would not be protecting the HS students by more parking. That is not wise.

We requested permit on our side of the street but was denied. People on our side of the street.

They have parking lots. Why don't they have a lottery or some kind of way to say we give students permits to park in the lots. Then a reasonable amount to park permit everywhere else. A compromise to help the school.

No, this will legitimize twenty or thirty new drivers. People are parking illegally every day.

Just to be clear, if we gave everything to the students it still would not solve the problem.

Mayor: we are against the school to expand their footprints. It is inconsistent with plans and goals. SD should be building up on their land. We want to keep it residential.

Why is the School District not involved?

Mayor: We owe it to all city to take in all sides. Number one it is the SD problem. We have an obligation to assess our assessment on our public land. It is a city asset a public space. We created a new map. We had them put together in one ordinance. I have raised the question what is the capacity, if you chose select street, students brought up one side of the street for them. The only thing we've asked to open up is to park on the West A bridge. There is no plan to take the ordinance away. I am having coffee with the superintendent tomorrow. March or April meeting between council and SD. This has to be a school solution, and is a SD problem, but we have to participate. We asked staff to look at Conditional Use (CU) permit. We have a socio-economic change. We encourage carpooling.

Is there any way for the city to demand SD to build something? You have opened the school to additional students, what are those numbers?

Mayor: We need to collect the information data. Not to propose that we are going to park in every other street. How many spaces and would one street make it over the other? We will not make a decision without talking to the community. Absolutely not to not do what happened the last time (*when the residents had to wait three to four hours to testify at a meeting in July 2017*). We will dedicate the agenda.

Mayor: we are trying to get intracity coverage up and down the hill for buses. We are discouraged by that. Collaborate to bring in more buses. After activity buses do not go where the rider wants to go.

Projects start at the problem statement. Can we get a problem statement for this project? We are still talking about a problem acquiescing to teen drivers.

I think it's great to get information. Please add a legal answer to who and to what extent is liable when a HS student walks down a street and is hit by a vehicle walking down the street or getting into his car. While the city is facing a legal battle from the students, what is the city's legal obligation? What is it per student injury if the city is sued by the parent? If this happens in an area where the infrastructure is responsibility of the school what might the liability be to the city? A million dollars? More?

Speeding is being ignored on West A.

Until this law suit came up everything was fine. It was all settled. Suddenly there is this council pleasing Rory. It looks as though the council is so excited that these youths are coming on, and that is understandable, but favoring them over the safety issues. One of the key elements of leadership school is how to assess other things around them. The students are not taking into consideration the neighborhood and all that means. Elderly, kids on bikes. When we watch the videos, it looks like you are pandering to the students. A lot of nights we do not have access to our streets. It was settled back in September. Why is it jumping up now? Three parents wanted to come but could not because they have children in activities.

Mayor: I am not pandering to Rory. I commend him. I am very encouraging by youth and their engagement. My interests, council interests, is see how we can approve the situation if we maintain the ordinance; how can we solve that? Those are all issues garbage etc. Hire someone to write tickets.

Let's talk revenue. You seemed surprised that parking was not enforced on A street. If we call every day I count about 22 cars everyday illegally parked. We are also finding out that these fines are being dismissed.

Each time they are ticketed on Broadway they do not return.

We had the same issue in Barlow HS. Sexual predators happened off campus. No student should be off campus at any time. It was about protecting our students. The school took a stand that they saw they were allowing risk increase. If city opens this to more parking it is making it ten times worse.

How can we say these things and get into public record? My voice was not in public record, but my email is not (*when this resident sent comments for public comments in the July 2017 meeting.*)

Mayor: I will check I thought we had solved that. We are trying to get control of the time. I will share all this information with the council.

Our minutes become the public record.

The problem is the SD is dumping all these externalities onto the city and residents. They all boil down to get the SD to take responsibility for their students. The SD is not living up to their responsibility. Take the attitude in working with the city to charge the SD to keep their responsibility. Let's take a rational approach.

Mayor: You know the new parking? I want them to drive less number one. Number two get school district to build a garage on Skyline. When I suggest things I am looking for information.

More traffic means less safety.

Then lots of solutions were batted about by the attendees during this discussion.

Mayor: Sidewalks. Could create risk without sidewalk. Is there any interest in building the sidewalks?

Missing the point, when you allow students to spread out, that creates an additional danger like the BarlowHS speaker said.

When you add numbers of cars decreases safety. A parking lot will keep a neighborhood feel more than a two or three-story garage. I prefer a lot.

As a teacher I have to agree that anytime you have students off campus it is a problem. My understanding is that the problem is that we just got more kids. When we bought our home on West A, *(there were other homes in the area)* and we did not go with them because we wanted to be in the WLWV SD. My understanding is that students outside of the district...the more heads equals more money. We have to put pressure on the SD and the School. They are making the enrollment problem. (SD) Taking no more kids will go a long way to solve the problem. You are gathering information, the facts don't lie, but should be looked at, but also look at the facts of the extra kids. The SD head count is creating the problem. It is not us. It is the District. They really need to deal with that.

More rationality, there is x number of students in the school of which a large proportion is driving. What do you do for the potential number of drivers growth? The point is you will not find places for the number of cars by creating more parking opportunities.

Creating the number of spaces creates expectations to drive. The mayor's proposal to allocate staff time -- a number of counselors did not want to do that before talking to the school district. I don't know why the neighbors were ignored.

Most concern is that the safety issues will be difficult to quantify. You will not have any way to have an idea of safety risk until we do something about the issues we already have. The quantification of data does not do any good without the safety risk.

BNA to create a task force. Jenni Romano will chair. Volunteers for Task force Pam Martin, Lottie Edger, Mike McLaughlin, Alan Smith. Rebecca is willing to share information with the task force. Is the problem parking on the street?

Lincoln has no parking lot and all the students get there. WLHS is superior to Lincoln and Wilson.

Also ask the Metro to make more transit available.

WLWV SD is REQUIRED to provide busing. There are district buses available. But very busy.

Mayor: *(Students think)* It is not cool to ride on buses. The SD activity buses is a big problem. They need to a better job to provide. That has to be part of the solution. The students need to get organized in house *(in the school)*. The students have admitted they are not doing enough.

You as a council has the authority to stand up for the parking zone. All it has to be is three people on council who stand up for the Zone or on the other hand all it takes is three council votes to say we are not concerned and the parking zone is lost.



**Mayor:** Saying it won't work is not a defense, but data is necessary. Council is not to take away the ordinance. It (*the information from staff after measuring the streets for parking*) is to argue legally that we can't do it.

**President:** We learned a lot, it is illuminating. The passion of the community is becoming clearer.

Motion to adjourn: passed preponderance.

**President Steve adjourned the meeting 9:35p.m.**

*Minutes written by Alan Smith, Vice President*