

Draft Minutes

NEW YORK MILLS CITY COUNCIL

**Public Hearing Regarding
Updates to Parking Ordinances No. 69, 104 & 139
May 14, 2024
5:15 p.m.**

The Public Hearing convened at 5:16 p.m.

Members Present Maki, Hetland, Nesland, Grotheer

Members Absent Hammond

Staff Present City Clerk Julie Roberts, Administrative Assistant Cheri Kopveiler, Public Works Superintendent Kyle Mattson,

Guests Present Carl (Kip) Peltoniemi, Robert Kempenich, Sommer Dow, Ben Jacobson

Call to Order The Public Hearing was called to order at 5:16 p.m. by Mayor Maki. A quorum was present.

- I. Mayor Maki welcomed guests and explained that the purpose of the Public Hearing was to obtain public input regarding newly revised Parking Ordinances 69, 104 & 139 for the City of New York Mills. A committee was formed to update existing ordinances which have become outdated and create a more organized renumbering system moving forward. Proper notice was given via both posted and published public notice.
- II. Ordinance No. 69 (801) Updates and Renumbering- Clerk Roberts referred to the draft copy, explaining the proposed changes and noting the format presented. She stated that the new numbering system will coordinate ordinances by type for better efficiency. Sommer Dow expressed concern over the street in front of her home being narrowed during the last street project, and over the inability to park her vehicles on the street in front of her home for longer than 24 hours. She commented that due to the nature of her business, she often has a trailer containing items from storage units that must sit at her residence. Discussed angle parking on Main Street. Many comments overlapped with Ordinance 104, regarding the use and storage of large motor vehicles and trailers.
- III. Ordinance No. 104 (802) Regulating the use and storage of large vehicles/trailers in residential districts - Sommer Dow felt they should not be penalized for their livelihood and should be able to park their semi in front of their home on the street. In a residential/commercial area, she felt large motor vehicles should be allowed. Robert Kempenich was concerned that while he could understand the need for winter parking restrictions, he could not park his motorhome in front of his home for a week in summer after taking it of storage. Councilman Grotheer stated that residents could always speak with the City regarding special circumstances. The idea of issuing temporary permits was suggested. Ben Jacobson suggested that something be built into the ordinance giving leniency for extenuating circumstances. Discussion was held regarding ownership of the space in front of residents' homes.
Clerk Roberts commented that the City's goals were to prevent blight in neighborhoods and promote safety. If numerous residents use the street as an extension of their yard, there could be multiple vehicles parked on the streets making them narrow and obstructing view for residents backing out of driveways.

IV. Ordinance No. 139 (803) Imposing Calendar Parking- Clerk Roberts pointed out that an exception was added excluding County roadways, cul-de-sacs and industrial zoned areas from the restriction. Sommer Dow asked whether the enforcement window would be changed, commenting she felt going until 7:00 a.m. was too late to restrict parking on one side of the street. Public Works Director replied that it would not be changed. Discussion was held regarding clearing of snow on the streets and snow piles the City places in front of their home along with the timeliness of hauling that snow away. Mattson addressed.

The Council agreed that further work was needed on the ordinances. Discussion will include potential temporary permits, addressing of campers and large vehicles, and extenuating circumstances for 24-hour parking restrictions. Councilman Grotheer commented that any further questions or concerns could be emailed to Clerk Roberts. With no further comments or concerns brought forward, Mayor Maki thanked everyone present.

The public hearing was closed at 6:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Julie A. Roberts

City Clerk

(Notes taken and typed by Cheri Kopveiler, Administrative Assistant)