

**MINUTES - SPECIAL MEETING
BOONE TOWN COUNCIL
OCTOBER 23, 2006**

A special meeting of the Boone Town Council was called to order at 7:10 p.m. on Monday, October 23, 2006 in the Council Chambers, 1500 Blowing Rock Road. Mayor Loretta Clawson presided. Council members present were Mayor Pro-Tem Lynne Mason and Rennie Brantz. Council member Bunk Spann joined the meeting at 7:36 p.m. Staff members present were Town Manager Greg Young; Town Clerk Freida Van Allen; Public Services Director Blake Brown and Police Chief Bill Post.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss parking issues in the Town of Boone.

Booting

Police Chief Bill Post said he has not received any complaints regarding booting since the new signage requirements were instituted September 1st. Downtown Boone Development Association Director Tuesdae Rice agreed and said she has not received any complaints in the past three or four weeks. Ms. Rice noted that the Wildflower lot is not currently being monitored and that the lot is being abused. Ms. Rice said she heard that once signage is installed, booting will be enforced on that lot once again.

Signage

Ms. Rice felt that some of the signage in town is confusing and that the Town should prepare a master plan for future parking and signage. Public Services Director Blake Brown reported that his department has put up new signage indicating where the central business district is located and new public parking indicator signs. Council member Mason asked if the Town could provide public parking location signs in private lots. Public Services Director Brown said yes, that could be done. Council member Brantz said some municipalities have large signs at their entrance which show where public parking is located. Council member Mason felt having a brochure at all downtown businesses would be helpful. The brochure should include a map of public parking and language stating that parking in downtown is free on nights, weekends and holidays.

Available Spaces

McLaurin Parking Local Manager Reta Miller presented the following parking inventory:

<u>Greasy Corner</u>	<u>From Bill's Garage to Traffic light @321</u>
	1 Hour Spaces---9
	Handicap Spaces---1
	No Parking---0
	Loading Zone---0
	<u>Cherry Street</u>
	1 Hour Spaces---3
	Handicap Spaces---0
	No Parking---0
	Loading Zone---0
<u>East King-A</u>	<u>Mountain Pirates to Capone's Pizza</u>
	1 Hour Spaces---21
	Handicap Spaces---0
	No Parking---1 Fire Lane
	Loading Zone---1
<u>East King -B</u>	<u>Grapevine Music (Mini Mall) to First Baptist Church</u>
	1Hour Spaces---22
	Handicap Spaces---2
	No Parking---1 Fire Lane

Loading Zone---2

East King-C Boone Bagelry to Grand Blvd

1 Hour Spaces---26

Handicap Spaces---0

No Parking---1 Fire Lane

Loading Zone---0

East King-D Grand Blvd to Depot Street

1 Hour Spaces---12

Handicap Spaces---1

No Parking---0

Loading Zone---0

North Depot DiSanti & Watson---Across from Booth

1 Hour Spaces---7

Handicap Spaces---0

No Parking---0

Loading Zone---0

South Depot-A Bejeweled to traffic light @ Rivers Street

1 Hour Spaces---6

Handicap Spaces---1

No Parking---0

Loading Zone---1

South Depot-B Footsloggers to King Street

1 Hour Spaces---9

Handicap Spaces---0

No Parking---1

Loading Zone---1

Depot Lot

1 Hour Spaces---23

Handicap Spaces---0

No Parking---0

Loading Zone---0

Linney Street Beside of the Post Office

1 Hour Spaces---8

Handicap Spaces---1

No Parking---0

West Howard Street Magic Cycles to Farmers Backside

1 Hour Spaces---8

Handicap Spaces---0

No Parking---0

Loading Zone---3

West King-A Melanie's to Appalachian Management

1 Hour Spaces---35

Handicap Spaces---0

No Parking---0

Loading Zone---0

West King-B Rams Rack To Shoppes at Farmers

1 Hour Spaces---33

Handicap Spaces---3

No Parking---0

Loading Zone---0

West King-C

Courthouse to end of 1 hour parking signs

1 Hour Spaces---13

Handicap Spaces---1

No Parking---0

Loading Zone---0

METERS College

Street---5

Queen Street---56 (available for public use)

Available in Downtown Boone

1 Hour Spaces

235

Handicap Spaces

10

Pay Meters

61 (3 hours for \$1.50)

King Street Pay Lot

34 1 Handicap

Permit Parking

140 Queen Street Lot

27 Library Lot

36 Jones House

203 TOTAL

TOTAL PARKING SPACES AVAILABLE IN DOWNTOWN BOONE = 544

Mayor Clawson questioned how the number and location of handicap parking spaces are determined. Public Services Director Brown said it is typically one or two spaces per block. Council member Mason asked if there is a standard on how many parking spaces should be made available to the public. Town Manager Greg Young said there is no standard, but that the Town has spent a great deal of money since 1991 investing in parking downtown. Mr. Young pointed out the Vance Lot and the new Queen Street Lot as examples. Town Manager Greg Young then presented the following parking space availability analysis, which was surveyed during the week of October 2-6, 2006:

PARKING SPACES AVAILABLE FOR DOWNTOWN BOONE				
	OCTOBER 02, THRU OCTOBER 06, 2006			
10/2/06				
	1 HOUR	HANDICAP	PERMIT	METERS
Round #1	191	15	98	46
Round #2	131	13	83	39
Round #3	65	12	81	31
Round #4	100	11	83	19
Round #5	90	11	80	26
King Street Pay Lot				
8:00	29			
9:00	13			
10:00	11			

11:00	0			
12:00	0			
1:00	5			
2:00	0			
3:00	3			
4:00	6			
5:00	14			
10/3/06				
	1 HOUR	HANDICAP	PERMIT	METERS
Round #1	199	13	104	56
Round#2	140	10	88	47
Round #3	108	7	74	24
Round #4	108	10	77	22
Round #5	112	10	84	33
Round #6	102	12	83	29
King Street Pay Lot				
8:00	27			
9:00	21			
10:00	11			
11:00	2			
12:00	5			
1:00	8			
2:00	6			
3:00	13			
4:00	14			
5:00	17			
10/4/06				
	1 HOUR	HANDICAP	PERMIT	METERS
Round #1	204	12	105	51
Round #2	123	8	96	40
Round #3	93	8	85	41
Round #4	81	10	83	27
Round #5	120	10	87	32
King Street Pay Lot				
8:00	31			
9:00	20			
10:00	5			
11:00	3			
12:00	2			
1:00	2			
2:00	3			
3:00	3			
4:00	6			
5:00	18			
10/5/06				
	1 HOUR	HANDICAP	PERMIT	METERS
Round #1	156	14	114	46
Round #2	138	10	83	35
Round #3	106	8	79	27
Round #4	83	10	86	29
Round #5	61	8	97	34
Round #6	88	6	NO COUNT	NO COUNT
King Street Pay Lot				
8:00	29			
9:00	30			
10:00	5			
11:00	2			
12:00	7			

1:00	10			
2:00	9			
3:00	9			
4:00	6			
5:00	18			
10/6/06				
	1 HOUR	HANDICAP	PERMIT	METERS
Round #1	186	14	103	43
Round #2	112	11	89	42
Round #3	83	7	40	5
Round #4	66	9	82	4
Round #5	85	11	86	31
King Street Pay Lot				
8:00	25			
9:00	21			
10:00	11			
11:00	7			
12:00	8			
1:00	4			
2:00	7			
3:00	11			
4:00	24			
5:00	32			
JONES HOUSE				
NOT INCLUDED				
IN PERMIT COUNT				

Town Manager Young concluded that the report shows that there are available parking spaces throughout the downtown area during the day. Downtown Boone Development Association Director Tuesdae Rice suggested that a third party prepare an analysis during a 7- to 14-day observation period. Council member Spann noted that there much public perception that the Town of Boone does not have enough parking. McLaurin Parking Manager Reta Miller commented that, in her opinion, there is no problem with the availability of parking spaces, but with the location of available parking, in that people do not want to walk very far to their destinations.

Town Manager Young reminded Council that, if the central business district is expanded in the future, it will put an additional demand on the town’s parking. Council member Mason felt a master plan on parking and signage and another parking space analysis may be needed in the future.

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Council member Mason, seconded by Council member Brantz, Council moved to adjourn at 8:03 p.m.

VOTE:Aye-All
Nay-None
Absent-2 (Pepin, Wilcox)

Town Clerk

Mayor