



CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

TO: Matthew R. Schmitz, MPA – City Manager

FROM: Susi Lampe, IaCMC, IaCFO – Assistant City Manager/City Clerk/Treasurer

DATE OF MEETING: April 28, 2025

ITEM TITLE: Chapter 69 Parking Regulation Amendments - 1st Reading

BACKGROUND:

This had been discussed at the February 3, 2025, City Council Work Session, the March 17, 2025, City Council Work Session, and again at the April 7, 2025, City Council Work Session. A first reading was held on February 24, 2025, during the Regular City Council Meeting, and then on March 10, 2025, during the Regular City Council Meeting, the Council made a motion to table the second reading of the proposed amendments as further discussion needed to be held. At the March 17, 2025, work session, the Council held a discussion on making changes to certain City-owned parking lots to allow overnight parking and adding language about not being able to continuously park in those same lots. During the April 7, 2025, City Council Work Session, additional discussion occurred about many of the provisions of this Ordinance. By making revisions, the City must start the process over with readings.

DISCUSSION:

The two major modifications outlined in the attached Ordinance are limiting downtown parking to two hours and removing the November 15th – April 1st limitation for parking between 2:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m.

Additionally, language was added to allow for the installation of signage designating certain spaces as downtown housing parking, allowing those spaces to have vehicles parked longer than the limits outlined and overnight as long as a valid permit is on the vehicle, which would be provided via an application at the Police Department.

All parking lots were also labeled with a number so that signage could be installed clearly identifying each parking lot to the Public.

Parking lots have been grouped together in the Code in sections 69.15 through 69.26 and 69.27 – Snow and Ice Removal from Parking Lots was added.

RESULTS:

The City has established priorities during strategic planning sessions. This item supports the Vision from that session of Engaging and Catalyzing Community. This item helps achieve that vision by limiting how long cars can be parked downtown so that the parking is available for visitors to the businesses as well as clearly identifying the parking lots to which these regulations apply.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

Once the new supplement has been mailed to City Hall, fees will need to be paid to Simmering-Cory Iowa Codification. Additional publication costs will also be incurred.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends a motion to approve the first reading of an ordinance amending provisions pertaining to Chapter 69 – Parking Regulations.

Staff recommends a motion to suspend the statutory rule requiring an ordinance to be considered and voted on for passage at two council meetings prior to the meeting at which it is to be finally passed.

Staff recommends a motion to have this ordinance, which amends provisions pertaining to Chapter 69 – Parking Regulations, placed on its final passage for adoption pursuant to Iowa Code Section 380.3 and to authorize the Mayor to sign the Ordinance. The changes will be effective upon the ordinance summary being published in the newspaper.