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**Sent:** Wednesday, December 25, 2019 11:49 PM

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**Subject:** The new Parking Ordinance

City Leaders

First I would like to thank you for serving the city of Oelwein. It is not the easiest job in the world and even though the people of Oelwein and the city council do not always agree I know you have the best for Oelwein in mind. The reason I write is about your new parking ordinance. There are a couple of things I would like you to consider modifying.

1. The time limit you have established for loading/unloading is 30 minutes. I think this is way too short in some instances. Many of the vehicles driven by utilities and members of the service industry are over the limits you have imposed. The typical install time for Cable TV, Dish, Direct TV, or Telephone runs around an hour if all goes well and can extend longer depending on the size of the install. An Electrician, Carpenter or Plumber could be at a house for over 8 hours in a day and I saw no exemption for utility trucks or service vehicles. I do not think the intent is to make it difficult for businesses to do business in Oelwein. It would be a sad event for someone new to move to Oelwein and have their moving truck show up to unload and a neighbor calls the police because the truck has been there for 31 minutes and they are not even ¼ unloaded. An encounter with the local police department on your first day in Oelwein would not be an ideal situation and would tend to paint Oelwein negatively. Almost every camper would exceed the size limits you have imposed and loading a camper for a week or two trip could very easily take over 30 minutes and result in a visit from the local police department because a neighbor complains. These are a few loading/unloading situations that will occur on occasion and a citation for any of them would be sad. The reason I mention a neighbor in this is we all know those who consider it their duty to report any perceived infraction on anyone or everyone.
2. The size limits you have listed as the vehicles allowed to park on the streets could stop many pickups and SUV's from being allowed to park on the streets of Oelwein, not to mention the service vehicles that many of the citizens of Oelwein drive home every night from their job to allow them to respond quicker to outages or service issues. Parking service vehicles in the municipal parking lots opens them up to theft and damage by wayward individuals. The size issue combined with the time limit would stop any individual that drives a vehicle in the performance of their job from stopping at their home for their one hour lunch break without breaking the standards set forth by this ordinance.

I understand where you are coming from and I saw where the Chief of Police can make exceptions but do we want him to be bothered continually with this and if an exception is made for one and not another we open the city up for a litigation situation through the courts.

I have not seen the results of the meeting of December 23 so you may have resolved all of my concerns already and if so I thank you for your forethought.

I have not made any suggestions as to the length of time or the size limits as I think the subject deserves discussion about what is considered reasonable and do any additional exceptions need to be added.

Thank You for your time and Service

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