

TOWN OF STONINGTON

PARKING ORDINANCE

Of June 2006

Amended:

October 2, 2006 (re: Atlantic Avenue)

October 5, 2009 (re: Colwell ramp, Atlantic Ave loading zone, etc.)

September 19, 2011 (re: Highland Ave, Bayview, etc.)

December 17, 2012 (re: Main Street, library parking, winter snow ban W. Main)

February 22, 2016 (re: snow removal)

July 3, 2017-(re: sign regulation, seasonal 4-hour parking limit)

AUTHORITY AND PURPOSE: This ordinance is adopted and enacted by the Board of Selectmen of the Town of Stonington in accordance with 30-A MRSA § 3009 to regulate traffic and parking. The Selectmen find that unrestricted parking of motor vehicles on town roads is a hindrance and a danger to the public. The purpose of this ordinance is to regulate the parking in the Town as necessary to insure the safety and safe passage of all.

DEFINITIONS: Words used in this ordinance shall be defined in accordance with 29-A MRSA §101; any undefined word shall have its common, ordinary meaning.

DESIGNATION OF CROSSWALKS AND TRAFFIC LANES: The Town Manager is hereby authorized to enforce the following:

Crosswalks: to designate and maintain by appropriate devices, marks, or lines upon the surface of the roadway, crosswalks at intersections where in his/her opinion, there is particular danger to pedestrians in the roadway, and at other places as he/she deems necessary.

Stop Signs: The Town shall have the authority to erect, place and maintain, or cause to be placed or maintained, a stop sign on each and every street intersection or location. Every such sign shall bear the word "Stop" in letters not less than six inches in height, and shall be located in as near as practicable at the nearest line of crosswalk on the near side of the intersection or, if none, at the nearest line of the roadway. When Stop signs are erected as herein provided at or near the entrance to any intersection, every driver of a vehicle shall stop such vehicle at such sign or at a clearly marked stop line before entering the intersection except when directed to proceed by a police officer. No person shall, without lawful authority, attempt to or in fact alter, deface, injure, knock down or remove any official traffic control device, or any inscription, shield or insignia thereon, or any part thereof.

Parking Spaces: The Town Manager is hereby authorized and directed to designate and mark off, or cause to be marked off, such individual parking spaces as either deems proper along any street in the business area of the Town for the parking of vehicles.

Where individual parking is so marked off, each vehicle shall be parked entirely within an individual parking space.

Main Street: Parking shall be within marked parking spaces. Parking shall be banned on the South side of Main Street from the intersection of Atlantic Ave and Main Street to the east corner of the granite museum. Parking spaces on the remainder of Main Street shall have 4 hour time limits from 8AM to 5PM, June through September with the exception of designated, marked and signed half hour (1/2 hour) spots on the north end of Main Street. Under no circumstances shall parked vehicles loading or unloading block or obstruct the area. Commercial trucks shall load and unload in designated loading or unloading areas only, unless express authority is given by the Town Manager/Road Commissioner.

Main Street Town Hall Parking: Permitted employees and persons conducting business in the town hall may park in the lot behind the building. From 4 p.m. to 8 a.m. permitted employees may park in this lot. Handicapped parking is available in the designated area beside the ADA handicapped ramp beside the Town Hall and in the designated area behind the Town Hall for the second floor meeting room and is reserved for authorized handicapped plated or placarded vehicles only. The driveway and parking area behind the town hall, per the covenant in the deed, is a shared driveway only for owners and employees of the establishments.

Main Street Truck Unloading Ban: From May 1st through September 30th between the hours of 8:00AM and 4:00PM, no person shall stop, stand or park a commercial vehicle greater than 20 feet in length on Main Street from Atlantic Avenue to School Street except in a designated truck loading zone, and in no case shall the stop for loading or unloading exceed 30 minutes without special permission of the Town Manager. The words "commercial vehicle" shall be deemed to mean a motor vehicle bearing commercial license plates. A truck loading zone 65 feet in length is hereby established on Main Street in front of the Stonington Sanitary District service building.

Pink Street, Memorial Lane: Designated for daily off-street use of residents, businesses and employees. Parking shall be within marked parking spaces. No trailers shall be parked in Pink Street or Memorial Lane. No person shall park a motor vehicle in these areas for more than 24 hours.

Stinson Park: Parking shall be within marked parking spaces. Parking shall not exceed 24 hours, except from June through September, 8AM to 5PM, when parking shall be limited to 4 hours. No person shall load or offload cargo, building materials, vehicles, special equipment such as cranes onto the town dock/parking areas or town property without the permission of the Town Manager/Road Commissioner. Cargo, building materials, vehicles, and special equipment (such as cranes) exceeding sixty thousand pounds shall be prohibited unless permission is obtained from the Town Manager/Road Commissioner.

Hagen Dock: Parking shall be within marked parking spaces. Parking shall not exceed 24 hours, except from June through September, 8AM to 5PM, when parking shall be

limited to 4 hours. From June through September six (6) spaces shall be permitted for fishermen. No person shall park so as to block access to the public landing. No parking is allowed in the area behind the Fire Station building at Hagen Dock in the No Parking Zone area. No person shall load or offload cargo, building materials, stone, vehicles, special equipment such as cranes onto the town dock/parking area without the permission of the Town Manager/Road Commissioner. Cargo, building materials, stone, vehicles or special equipment such as cranes exceeding sixty (60) thousand pounds shall be prohibited unless permission is obtained from the Town Manager/Road Commissioner.

Atlantic Avenue: Due to the needs of the fire department, Atlantic Avenue shall be designated a fire lane and no parking is allowed. (Amendment #1): Commercial truck loading/unloading is permitted in the designated area marked in the town road limits on Atlantic Avenue beside the building located at 3 Atlantic Avenue. Under no circumstances shall the town road known as Atlantic Avenue be obstructed, or blocked by motor vehicles loading or unloading unless they have the express authority given by the Town Manager/Road Commissioner.

Seabreeze Avenue: No parking for motor vehicles except for emergency vehicles.

Colwell Ramp: The following area shall have no parking except for motor vehicles loading or unloading for a period no longer than 45 minutes. No blocking of the boat ramp is allowed. No supplies, materials, cargo, or debris shall be left in the area known as Colwell Ramp, and shall be removed at the owner's expense. No day or night parking for motor vehicles is allowed. No person or persons shall abandon motor vehicles, boats or trailers in the area known as Colwell Ramp, and shall be removed at the owner's expense. Motor vehicles, trailers, and special equipment (such as cranes) exceeding sixty thousand pounds are prohibited unless express authority is given by the Town Manager/Road Commissioner.

Bayview Street: The following areas will have no parking for motor vehicles except for emergency vehicles: On the north side of Bayview Street, from the intersection of Seabreeze and Bayview to a point fifteen (15) feet east; On the north side of Bayview Street, from the intersection of Granite and Bayview to a point twenty five (25) feet west; On the north side of Bayview Street, from the intersection of Granite and Bayview east to the end of the road; on the south (water) side of Bayview Street, from the intersection of Seabreeze and Bayview east to the end of the street. No overnight parking shall be allowed except for property lines of owners of Map 8B Lot 34A known as the "Lobster Trap" abutting Bayview Street.

Highland Avenue: No parking on either side of Highland Avenue.

Sand Beach: No parking on either side of the road within 1500 feet of the area known as Sand Beach, except in the designated, marked parking area on the road shoulder at Sand Beach. Parking shall be in designated parking lot areas only. No parking in the designated Sand Beach parking area after the posted hours. No parking of motor vehicles is allowed beyond the gated area leading to the beach leased by the Town except for the

motor vehicles of the owners of the property and the Town of Stonington Public Works motor vehicles. No person shall block the access road leading to the beach area.

School Street: No parking on either side of School Street from the southern intersection of Main Street and School Street to a point northeasterly 100 feet from the intersection of School and Highland Avenue.

Stonington Fish Pier: The Fish Pier is a user fee based parcel regulated by its own separate ordinance which governs its parking criteria and is overseen by the Harbormaster/Pier Manager and Town Manager. There is no parking by non-permitted vehicles. Parking on the Pier is not open to the general public at any time except by permission of the Selectmen for special events.

Other Town owned properties: No persons shall park motor vehicles at any other Town owned parcels or property unless they have prior permission from the Town Manager/Road Commissioner, paid use or lease fees applicable to such properties and their interests in them giving them such permissions and rights, such as the School Rental Building, Gym building, Town Water company parcels, Stonington Municipal Airport, Public Works facility, Transfer Station, and Athletic field complex.

Snow Removal: No vehicle shall be parked at any time in any public street, way or Town-owned parking area so as to interfere with or hinder the removal of snow by the Town plowing. An appointed officer may cause any vehicle so parked to be removed from the street and placed in a suitable parking space off of the street, at the expense of the owner of such vehicle and without the Town being liable for any damage that may be caused by such removal.

Snow Removal Parking Ban: From December 1st through, April 15th no person shall leave a car parked on Main Street between Atlantic Avenue and School Street or leave a car parked at the beginning of West Main Street to the intersection of West Main Street and Highland/Greenhead Road between the hours of 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. while the town is removing snow.

Street Sweeping/Striping/Road Utility: The Town Manager shall mark or cause to be marked, with temporary signs or cones, public ways and/or parking areas for which the public works department wishes to sweep/stripe or conduct road utility work during its regular maintenance of downtown areas. Signs shall be placed at locations and notice posted at conspicuous public places of sweeping/striping/road utility work intentions and parking during which becomes illegal. Signs and markers shall be removed as soon as possible after sweeping/striping/road utility work is completed. Any appointed officer such as the town manager or police officer designated may cause such vehicle parked in violation to be removed from the parking space and towed at the expense of the owner of such vehicle and without the town being liable for any damage that may be caused by such removal.

General Prohibitions: No person shall park a vehicle in any of the following places:

on a sidewalk; in front of any driveway or lane; within an intersection; within 10 feet of a hydrant; on a crosswalk; within 10 feet of the near corner of the curbs at an intersection; on the roadway side of any vehicle stopped or parked at the edge or curb of a street; within 15 feet upon the approach to any stop sign located at the side of the roadway; within 15 feet of a crosswalk; within 15 feet of a fire station; in front of a handicapped access ramp or at any place where official signs or curb painting so prohibit. No person shall abandon a motor vehicle on town property. No person or persons shall sleep in parked vehicles or camper trailers on any town property. No person shall stop, stand, park or leave his/her vehicle on any street in such a manner or under such conditions so as to obstruct the free passage of other vehicles in either direction unless specifically permitted by the Town. No person shall, without lawful authority, attempt to alter, deface, injure, knock down or remove any official traffic control device, or any inscription, shield or insignia thereon, or any part thereof. Small utility trailers are prohibited in downtown parking areas, Hagen Dock, Stinson Park, Pink Street and Memorial Lane parking lots. Only vehicles displaying a valid handicapped sign shall be parked in a parking spot marked for handicapped people. No unattended reefer or refrigerated motor vehicles/ trucks shall park with reefers running between the hours of 9:00PM and 5:00AM on any town property or parking area. All vehicles parked on or operating on town roads, town property or parking areas must be currently registered, and not exceed a gross vehicle weight of sixty-thousand pounds (60,000)

TOWING: Any motor vehicle parked in violation of this ordinance may be towed at the expense of the owner without the Town being liable for any damage that may be caused by such removal. Towing will occur by a wrecker authorized by the municipality, at the request of and under the supervision of the official duly authorized and appointed by the Selectmen or Town Manager. Within five days of the tow the municipal official or towing company who supervised the tow shall send, to the registered owner, a notice stating the date and time of the tow, the location where the motor vehicle is impounded, and the requirements for release of the motor vehicle.

RELEASE OF TOWED VEHICLE: Any person seeking release of a motor vehicle towed pursuant to this ordinance must first (a) pay any parking fines due to the town, (b) pay all towing charges and storage charges (c) present satisfactory evidence of his or her right to possession and (d) sign a receipt for the vehicle.

ENFORCEMENT AND PENALTIES: This ordinance shall be enforced by the town official duly appointed and authorized by the Selectmen or Town Manager. The Town of Stonington may contract with the Hancock County Sheriff's Department to deputize parking enforcement officers pursuant to 30-A M.R.S.A. § 472.

It shall be the duty of the officer or authorized deputy acting in accordance with instructions or a memo of understanding of contracted services with the Town Manager/Selectmen to report: The State license plate number of any vehicle that is or has been parking in violation of any provision of this ordinance. The time at which such vehicle is parking in violation of any provision of this ordinance. Any other facts, or knowledge of which is necessary to have a thorough understanding of the circumstances attending such violation. Each officer shall attach to such vehicle a notice to the owner or operator thereof that such vehicle has

been parked in violation of the provisions of this ordinance. The fact that any vehicle is illegally parked is prima facie evidence that the vehicle has been parked illegally by the person in whose name the vehicle is registered (30-MRSA Sec. 3009 (C)).

A violation of this ordinance is a civil violation punishable by a fine of \$50.00. Any person charged with a violation of this ordinance may waive court action by paying a fee of \$25.00 to the Town Office within 10 days of this violation.

SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE: In the event that any provision of this ordinance is declared by a court to be unenforceable, the remaining provisions continue in full force and effect. This ordinance shall become effective when adopted by the Board of Selectmen. Any provisions of any prior ordinance that conflict with this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Date Adopted: 2017

Stonington Board of Selectmen

Signed:

Christopher Betts

Donna Brewer
Donna Brewer

Evelyn Duncan
Evelyn Duncan

John Steed

John Robbins
John Robbins

A True Copy Attest:

Wm. Macpherson
Town Clerk, Town of Stonington

