

# TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER

## OFFICE OF THE TOWN COUNCIL



Academy Building, 66 Central Square  
Bridgewater, MA 02324

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### Town Of Bridgewater

#### Town Council

Pursuant to Section 2-9 of the Bridgewater Home Rule Charter, the Bridgewater Town Council will consider for action on February 27, 2018 in the Academy Building, Council Chambers, 66 Central Square, Bridgewater, MA 02324 proposed Ordinance D-FY18-007: PARKING ORDINANCE which proposes amending General Ordinances Part III, Chapter I, Article II – Non-Criminal Enforcement of Violations by adding Ch. 260/Art. XV Paid Parking - \$25 for first and each subsequent Offense. And to further amend Bridgewater General Ordinances, Part III, Chapter 260, Streets and Sidewalks, by adopting Article XV, Paid Parking which, in part, proposes adding on street and off street metered parking zones and parking time limits. The full ordinance can be viewed on the pages that follow and is on file with the Town Council Clerk.



ORDERED that pursuant to Article II, Section 2-2 of the Bridgewater Town Charter; the Town Council of the Town of Bridgewater, Massachusetts in Town Council assembled vote to amend the Bridgewater General Ordinances, Part III, Chapter 260, Streets and Sidewalks, by adopting the following Article XV, Paid Parking:

Part III. General Ordinances  
Chapter 260. Streets and Sidewalks  
Article XV. Paid Parking

**Section 1. Definitions**

For the purposes of this Article, the following words and phrases shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them:

*Off-street parking* areas shall mean the off-street parking areas owned and located throughout the Town of Bridgewater.

*Parking meter or kiosk* shall mean any mechanical or electronic device, not inconsistent with the provisions of this article, and placed or erected on any public way within the city for the regulation of parking. Each parking meter installed shall indicate by proper legend the legal parking time established by this article and when operated shall indicate the beginning and expiration of such period.

*Parking meter space* shall mean any space within a parking meter zone, adjacent to a parking meter or within a paid parking zone, which is duly designated for the parking of a single vehicle by lines painted on the surface of the street or designated by official town signage.

*Parking space*, as used in connection with off-street parking areas, shall mean the space indicated on plans of the off-street parking areas on file in the Town Clerk's office in which a vehicle may be properly parked and which shall be indicated clearly by painted lines, official town signage or otherwise.

*Parking meter zones* shall mean the streets or parts of streets in which the use of parking meters is authorized by this article, and the numbered parking spaces on each of the off-street parking areas in which the use of parking meters is authorized by this article.

**Section 2. Meter zones and parking time limits established - On-street parking.**

The streets or parts of streets described below are hereby established as parking meter zones, with parking restrictions as specifically indicated for each such zone.

1. School Street from Central Square to Summer Street as allowed by markings and signage.

**Section 3. Meter zones and Parking Time Limits Established - Off-street parking areas.**

The numbered parking spaces as shown on plans for each individual off-street parking area and filed with the Town Clerk, are hereby established as parking meter zones, with parking meter restrictions as specifically indicated for each zone. The Off-street parking areas are:

1. Spring Street Parking Lot
2. Town Parking Lot – rear of the buildings on the east side of Central Square.
3. Broad Street Lot – adjacent to the old rail station

**Section 3. Installation and maintenance.**

**ROLL CALL VOTE – REQUIRES MAJORITY OF FULL COUNCIL (5)**

(a) The Town Manager shall provide for the installation and repair of parking meters or kiosks, curb or street marking lines, and lines on the off-street parking areas, in the areas designated in this article as parking meter zones. The Town Manager shall have charge of the regulation and operation thereof and shall ensure the maintenance of such meters in good workable condition.

#### **Section 4. Location and construction generally.**

In on-street parking meter zones, parking meters or kiosks shall be placed upon the curb, next to or reasonably close to the individual parking places. Parking meters or kiosks shall be placed on the various off-street parking areas, as shown on the plans on file with the Town Clerk. All such meters or kiosks shall be so constructed as to display a signal or issue a display or notification showing legal parking, upon the deposit of proper payment indicated by the instructions on the meters.

#### **Section 5. Location where parking prohibited.**

Notwithstanding the provisions of this Article XV, parking meters shall not be erected nor shall parking meter spaces and zones be established on any street or parts of streets where parking may by law be prohibited, except as specifically provided herein.

#### **Section 6. Hours of operation.**

Parking meters shall operate and control parking in the parking meter zones established in this article as determined by Town Manager regulation, however there shall be no metered parking on Saturdays and Sundays and legal holidays of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

#### **Section 7. Vehicle to be parked within lines of metered space.**

Whenever any vehicle shall be parked in a metered area, the operator of the vehicle shall park within the area designated by the curb or street marking lines as indicated for angle or parallel parking. In off-street parking areas, the vehicle shall be parked within the lines indicating the parking space.

#### **Section 8. Deposit of payment required; overtime parking; exemption.**

(a) When a vehicle is parked in a parking space for which a parking meter or kiosk has been installed under this article, the driver shall, upon entering the parking space, immediately deposit, in the meter or kiosk, appropriate payment as indicated by the instructions on the meter or kiosk. It shall be unlawful for any person to fail or neglect to deposit such payment. Upon such deposit, the parking space may then be used by such vehicle during the time prescribed in this article according to the sum thus deposited. The vehicle shall be unlawfully parked if it shall remain in such space beyond the period of time which the driver shall have deposited such payment in the meter or kiosk. It shall be unlawful for any person to cause any vehicle to be unlawfully parked as provided in this section.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provisions in this article, no parking meter fees shall be due under subsection (a) nor shall any penalty be imposed for failure to pay on days declared a parking meter holiday which dates shall be determined by the Town Manager to correspond with special events.

**Section 9. Parking meter fees prescribed.**

All meter fees shall be determined by Town Manager regulation.

**Section 10. Tampering with, breaking, etc., meters; depositing slugs.**

It shall be unlawful for any person, not authorized to do so, to tamper with, break, injure or destroy any parking meter, or to deposit or cause to be deposited therein any slugs or any other device or metallic or paper substance or any other substitute for the payments required to be deposited by this article.

**Section 11. Collection of deposits and inspection of meters or kiosks.**

The Town Manager shall have the authority and duty to collect or cause to be collected, weekly or more often at his discretion, all payments made pursuant to a paid parking program and to inspect or cause to be inspected such paid parking equipment weekly, or may be necessary, to see that they are in proper working order. The Chief of Police shall maintain a list of the equipment which is not in proper working order. Said list shall be posted in the police station and a copy provided to the parking clerk.

**Section 12. Records of receipts and disbursements.**

The Town Manager shall ensure the documentation of all paid parking receipts and disbursements.

**Section 13. Duty of police as to violations of article.**

It shall be the duty of the Police Chief to issue citations for all vehicles whose operators violate the provisions of this article and to cause to be imposed the penalties provided in Chapter 1, Section 3. Schedule of Fines.

*Explanation: The Town has never had a paid parking program. This simple first step is aimed at providing paid parking options to visitors to Bridgewater State University, and would not be used in Central Square or other side streets used by residents. Revenues earned by the program would be used to make infrastructure improvements to the downtown areas such as sidewalks, Complete Streets improvements, bicycle lanes, pedestrian improvements, etc. Revenues could also be used to finance engineering for road improvements, handicapped accessibility, etc. Rough estimates show the program could raise up to \$275,000 annually.*

Committee Referrals and Dispositions:

Referral(s)	Disposition(s)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community &amp; Economic Development Committee</li> <li>• This measure has been duly advertised, therefore may be finally voted this evening.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/29/18: Vote 3-0 recommend approval as amended.</li> </ul>