

Date: Monday, November 19, 2018

To: Assistant to the Selectmen
Natick Town Offices
13 East Central Street
Natick, MA 01760

Re: Motion to increase the fine for §480-24 (No All-Night Parking) violation

Please enter into the agenda for the town meeting of Monday, November 26, 2018, a motion to increase the fine for violations of Section 480-24 (No All-Night Parking) of the Traffic Rules and Orders of the Town of Natick.

Petitioner:

John Stephen Chamberlain, resident of the Town of Natick at 12 Florence Street since 1999.

Motion:

Resolved, that the fine for violating Section 480-24 (No All-Night Parking) of the Traffic Rules and Orders of the Town of Natick shall increase from \$20 to \$50 and that Schedule K of the Rules shall be updated to reflect that change.

Informational Background and Argument:

Section 480-24 of the Traffic Rules and Orders reads as follows:

§ 480-24 No All-Night Parking

It shall be unlawful for the driver of any motor vehicle, other than one acting in an emergency, to park said motor vehicle on any street, public way, or municipal lots between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. on any day between October 1 and April 30.

This rule has been enacted by members of the Town Meeting of Natick under the authority conferred by Section 22 Chapter 40 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The current fine for violations of this rule is twenty dollars (\$20) per Schedule K of the same document. Due to the passage of time and monetary inflation, the deterrent effect of this fine has decreased. For people who are using the public ways of Natick to permanently store their cars, the value of this storage is well worth an occasional \$20 fine. These cars being stored on public ways continually obstruct and inconvenience motorists and public works vehicles that must steer around them. Therefore, the penalty for overnight parking should be increased.

Date: Monday, November 19, 2018

To: Assistant to the Board of Selectmen
Natick Town Offices
13 East Central Street
Natick, MA 01760

Re: Motion to demand enforcement of §480-24 (No All-Night Parking)

Please enter into the agenda for the town meeting of Monday, November 26, 2018, a motion to demand enforcement of Section 480-24 (No All-Night Parking) of the Traffic Rules and Orders of the Town of Natick.

Petitioner:

John Stephen Chamberlain, resident of the Town of Natick at 12 Florence Street since 1999.

Motion:

The Town Clerk will prepare a letter to the Captain of Police of the Town of Natick on behalf of the Board of Selectmen having the message as follows:

The Board of Selectmen of the Town Meeting of the Town of Natick hereby instruct the Captain of Police of the Town of Natick to enforce Section 480-24 (No All-Night Parking) of the Traffic Rules and Orders of the Town of Natick by ticketing and fining the offender according to the rules and regulations when any resident of the town shall make a complaint about a vehicle or vehicles parked on a public way in violation of Section 480-24.

and will send that letter within three (3) business days of this meeting and will post that letter as a notice to the public at the Town Hall for 90 days.

Informational Background:

The patrolmen of the Town of Natick are routinely refusing to enforce Section 480-24 of the Traffic Rules and Orders either spontaneously or when they receive a citizen complaint. The text of this rule is as follows:

§ 480-24 No All-Night Parking

It shall be unlawful for the driver of any motor vehicle, other than one acting in an emergency, to park said motor vehicle on any street, public way, or municipal lots between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. on any day between October 1 and April 30.

This rule has been enacted by members of the Town Meeting of Natick under the authority conferred by Section 22 Chapter 40 of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

I, John Stephen Chamberlain resident at 12 Florence Street in Natick since 1999, have made multiple complaints to the police concerning vehicles illegally parked on public ways in Natick this year which the police have uniformly refused to act on. One patrolman told me to my face that he was refusing to ticket the offending vehicle after I flagged him down on the street where the vehicle was located and after he had examined it. As I recall, I have made at least four (4) complaints of this type this year, all of which have been refused by the police.

As evidence of this I submit to the Town Meeting a photograph taken at approximately 6:30 a.m. on Friday, November 16, 2018, at the intersection of Harvard Street and Washington Street showing two illegally parked vehicles that had been there all night. I called in a complaint on these two vehicles at approximately 4:30 a.m. Nevertheless, the police took no action and refused to ticket the offending vehicles. As can be seen in the photographs the vehicles prevented town snow plows from removing snow from that section of the street. There was no ticket on either vehicle. These vehicles had been parked in that locations since at least 5:00 p.m. the previous day.



