



10 AUG 13 AM 10:49

**Office of the Town Clerk**

50 Billerica Road  
Chelmsford, MA 01824-3190  
978-250-5205  
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Elizabeth L. Delaney  
Town Clerk

Raymonde R. Legrand  
Assistant Town Clerk

**MAY 12 2010**

To Whom It May Concern:

The Annual Town Meeting of April 26, 2010, was called to order at 7:35 PM at the Senior Center at 75 Groton Rd. The Moderator Dennis E. McHugh recognized the presence of a quorum. There were **150** Town Meeting Representatives present. The following action took place:

**UNDER ARTICLE 16.** Town Manager Paul E. Cohen moved that the Town vote to amend paragraph B of Section 174-5 Handicapped parking of the Code of the Town of Chelmsford by increasing the fine from \$100 to \$200 for unauthorized parking of a motor vehicle in a space reserved and designated for use by vehicles of handicapped persons, pursuant to the authority of MGL c. 40, § 21.

The Manager explained that state law allows the Town to set the rate of the fine for the violation of parking in the designated handicap space. It can be from \$100 to \$300 dollars. Currently the fine is \$100 and hasn't been increased since 1994. The Police Chief recommends that the fine be increased to \$200 and asked that the article be supported. The Moderator asked for questions, hearing none he asked for recommendations. The Finance Committee recommended the article; the Board of Selectmen recommended the article. Michael Combs spoke against the increase he felt that the current rate was sufficient. Brian Latina said he supported the increase and spoke in favor. Richard Mahoney asked if there would be an insurance surcharge. The Police Chief said no because it would not be a moving violation. Carol Kelly-Suleski questioned if it could be broken down by the number of offenses 1<sup>st</sup> time one rate second time etc. The Chief said it could be done but it would mean more paper work and discretion could be made at the time of the hearing. Karen DeDonato spoke in favor. the



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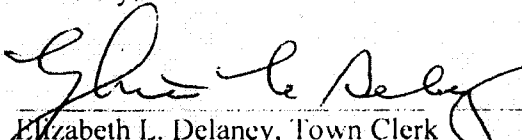
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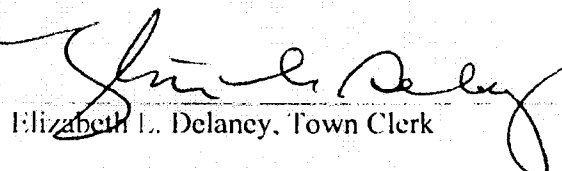
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higher fine gets attention and said that she knew of a person who was in New Hampshire and had been cited for parking in a designated handicap space and paid a fine of \$250 and vowed never to park again in a designated spot. Peggy Dunn moved the question to stop debate. The Moderator asked for a vote by way of a show of hands, **motion carried, unanimously**. He then asked for a vote by way of a show of hands on the article, **motion carried**.

Sincerely,

  
Elizabeth L. Delaney, Town Clerk

A True Copy Attest:

  
Elizabeth L. Delaney, Town Clerk