

# Bob Mollette

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Councilman

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January 6, 2006

Howard Baughman, Council President  
Jim Kalb, Mayor  
728 Second Street  
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662

Re: **Request for Improvements to Parking Issues in our Downtown District**

I have listened to several problems expressed and the practical solutions presented by downtown business owners who are disconcerted about our City government's lack of concern and resolve to address vital parking issues in our downtown area. My belief is the City has an obligation to address these issues and respond as needed. City Council should also include the business areas of the Bonneyfiddle District as required.

I recently sent correspondence (#05-020 - December 8, 2005) to the Mayor concerning a Traffic Committee member requesting (November 15, 2005) a review of the Loading Zone Guidelines which included associated codified ordinances for review. A business owner also suggested reinstalling existing parking meters in front of downtown businesses to maintain control over these prime parking spaces. I am requesting City Council to review and evaluate the need to return to parking meters in parts of the Downtown District as needed to assist retail business.

City Council must also address enforcement of all parking restrictions as stated in Codified Ordinances 351.20 *Two-Hour Limited Parking* and 353.10 *Parking Violation Tickets*. City Council must be given all pertinent information to determine the needs to implement such a plan. Granted, this information should have been discussed prior to passage of the 2006 Operating Budget but I believe it is never too late to remedy a problem.

If City Council should decide these requests are undesirable or not feasible then the Codified Ordinances need repealed or amended to reflect the actual conditions that exist.

I am also requesting assistance for another issue that is plaguing our downtown area. In our Downtown District existing abandoned buildings are in dire need of attention. I am requesting the Mayor's support to involve the appropriate departments to complete thorough inspections on the existing abandoned buildings in the Downtown and Bonneyfiddle Districts as needed. These buildings are a direct reflection of the City's commitment to our standards and code enforcement; it sends a wrong signal to anyone visiting our downtown area. These buildings need to be maintained at standards that not only provide for safety to the public but encourages business growth. The City needs to enforce our expectations.

Respectfully,



Bob Mollette, 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Council

rwm

CC: Charles Horner, Chief of Police  
Engineering Department  
Health Department  
Traffic Committee  
Kevin Johnson, Citizens Representative ([Kevin@theemporiums.com](mailto:Kevin@theemporiums.com))  
Jo Ann Aeh, City Clerk (Record)  
Council (5)