

**STAFF REPORT**

Approved and Forwarded to City Council



Edward A. Sundquist, Mayor

**DATE:** October 15, 2020  
**TO:** Edward A. Sundquist, Mayor  
**FROM:** Zach Altschuler, Executive Assistant to the Mayor  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution to Increase Parking Meter Violation Fees

**ACTION:**  Resolution  Ordinance/Local Law  Informational/Report

**ISSUE STATEMENT:** Jamestown parking violation fines lag behind comparable cities. This would bring us to a lower level but increase revenue and fine structure to make it more comparable to cities similar to our size.

**BACKGROUND:** Jamestown parking fees were last increased in January 2013 from \$5 to \$10 for parking violation fines for meter violations, meter feeding, and overtime in zone. The City has found more violators willing to pay \$10 tickets than pay parking meters. This is meant to deter abuse.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Significant impact on parking fines. Additional time period to pay without penalty would likely decrease the overall impact on the budget outside of the fines alone. Potentially 25% or more increase in parking fines collected.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff requests that the City Council approve the Resolution. Starting January 1, 2021, parking violation fines for meter violations, meter feeding, and overtime in zone would increase from \$10 to \$15. The Failure to Pay Schedule would be amended so that fines would double after 20 days (instead of the current 10 days) and triple after 30 days (same as current). All other violations would remain the same amount.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. Resolution (current and proposed fees attached)
2. Peer Cities Statistics Comparison (provided by Passport Parking)

BY COUNCILMEMBER \_\_\_\_\_ :

WHEREAS, Section 290-6 of the Jamestown City Code provides for the adoption of a fine schedule for specified offenses under the traffic ordinances of this City and the state traffic laws in respect to which payments of fines may be accepted by the City Treasurer in satisfaction thereof subject to the approval of the Judge of the City Court; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the fines for the following offenses be amended and forwarded to the Judge of the City Court for approval:

Statute	Violation	Current Fine	New Fine (Eff.1/1/2021)
City Code Sec. 290-40	Meter in Violation	10.00	15.00
City Code Sec. 290-39	Meter Feeding	10.00	15.00
City Code Sec. 290-33	Overtime in Zone	10.00	15.00
NYS V&T Sec. 1202	Improperly Parked	20.00	20.00
City Code Sec. 290-24	Restricted Zone 2AM-7AM	20.00	20.00
City Code Sec. 292-1	Expired Registration	25.00	25.00
City Code Sec. 290-3	Terrace Parking	20.00	20.00
NYS V&T Sec. 402	License Plate Missing	20.00	20.00
NYS V&T Sec. 306	Expired Inspection	25.00	25.00
City Code	Other Code Violation	20.00	20.00
NYS V&T Sec. 1210(a)	Key in Ignition	25.00	25.00
NYS V&T Sec. 1202	Blocking	25.00	25.00
NYS V&T Sec. 1203	Facing Wrong Way	25.00	25.00
NYS V&T Sec. 1202	Within 10' of crosswalk	25.00	25.00
NYS V&T Sec. 1202(a)3b	Within 15' of hydrant	25.00	25.00
City Code Sec. 290-23	Alt. Parking Oct.-Mar.	30.00	30.00
City Code Sec. 290-22	Alt. Parking Apr.-Sept.	25.00	25.00
NYS V&T Sec. 1202(a)1a	Double Parking	25.00	25.00
City Code Sec. 290-20 through 26	Restricted Zones (No Stopping, No standing, No Parking, Bus Stop, Block Drive/Alley)	25.00	25.00
NYS V&T Sec. 1203(b)2	Handicapped Zone 1 <sup>st</sup> Violation	75.00	75.00
NYS V&T Sec. 1203(b)2	Handicapped Zone 2 <sup>nd</sup> Violation	150.00	150.00
<b>Failure to Pay Schedule (CURRENT)</b>			
Failure to pay fines within 10 days shall result in all fines being doubled. Failure to pay fines within 20 days shall result in all fines being tripled.			
<b>Failure to Pay Schedule (NEW EFF. 1/1/2021)</b>			
Failure to pay fines within 20 days shall result in all fines being doubled. Failure to pay fines within 30 days shall result in all fines being tripled.			

This fee schedule shall take effect January 1, 2021.


	Jamestown	Peer 1	Peer 2	National CDI Avg
March 2019 thru February 2020 collection rate	88.63%	83.74%	86.11%	92%
Average Ticket Paid	\$19.12	\$36.27	\$16.49	\$32.40
% of Tickets Paid w/o Notice	79%	80%	69%	72%
Tickets Paid Online	30.7%	60%	44%	52%

Jamestown Notes:

- Tickets qualify for noticing after penalty assessed
- Penalties assess after 10 and 20 days of ticket issuance
- 91% of tickets issued are against NY registrations

**STAFF REPORT**

**DATE:** October 15, 2020  
**TO:** Edward A. Sundquist, Mayor  
**FROM:** Zach Altschuler, Executive Assistant to the Mayor  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution to Amend On-Street Parking Meter Fees

Approved and Forwarded to City Council  
  
Edward A. Sundquist, Mayor

**ACTION:**  Resolution       Ordinance/Local Law       Informational/Report

**ISSUE STATEMENT:** Bringing Jamestown parking meter fees in line with other Cities in the Western New York region.

**BACKGROUND:** Jamestown’s parking meter fees badly lag behind other cities in our area. Olean’s parking cost is \$2.25/hour while Niagara Falls is \$3.00/hour. This would bring prices closer in line to reflect the value for on-street, downtown parking. By increasing on-street parking fees, this would encourage parking in off-street parking spaces (where price will remain 75 cents an hour). Currently, our meter fees are too low to implement a mobile pay solution for downtown, as the cost to the city could exceed the cost to park per hour. A mobile pay solution resolution will be provided next month.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** Parking meter revenue in 2019 was \$156,804. This resolution could potentially double-parking meter revenue.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff requests that the City Council approve the Resolution. Starting January 1, 2021 all parking meter fees will increase to \$1.00/hour.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. Resolution
2. Chart of other local cities on-street parking meter fees

<b>City</b>	<b>Per hour Cost</b>
<b>Olean</b>	<b>\$2.25</b>
<b>Niagara Falls</b>	<b>\$3 Winter/ \$5 Summer</b>
<b>Buffalo</b>	<b>\$2.50</b>

RESOLVED, That the following fee schedule for the City of Jamestown Parking Meters be instituted as of January 1, 2021:

Parking Meters	\$1.00 per hour
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Approved and Forwarded to City Council



Edward A. Sundquist, Mayor

**DATE:** October 15, 2020

**TO:** Edward A. Sundquist, Mayor

**FROM:** Zach Altschuler, Executive Assistant to the Mayor

**SUBJECT:** Amending Parking Ordinances of the City of Jamestown (Eliminating Free Zone and Increasing Downtown Owner Permit Cost)

**ACTION:**  Resolution  Ordinance/Local Law  Informational/Report

**ISSUE STATEMENT:**

The City of Jamestown currently has a two-hour free zone in the Central Business District. This has led to imbalance and unfairness, where businesses in the free zone have free parking for their customers while those just outside have metered parking. The free zone also encourages parkers to stay for longer periods of time and takes up valuable customer parking for the many businesses in zone, this would encourage more turnover in the central business district. The City's most valuable parking in the downtown core has been given away for no cost. In addition, an increase in fees for the Business Owner Parking Permit in the downtown core is proposed, from \$300 to \$600 to more accurately reflect the value of the on-street parking in the downtown core. This will drive more to park into lots and available City off street parking.

**BACKGROUND:**

The free zone was established in 1995. Currently, there are 158 spaces in the free zone. This proposal is in line with what other cities do with their most valuable parking in downtown cores. In addition, a resolution next month will propose the addition of free "quick pick-up spaces" of 30 minutes to be added to the NW corners of blocks to allow those who are looking to make quick stops into downtown the ability to park for free.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Approx. 150 spaces would now have meters in the most highly trafficked area of downtown. The effects on parking revenue could potentially be enormous, especially as the parking spots with the most value and use will now have meters. The City has enough meters in storage to have every spot metered and could quickly deploy the meters into the free zone for operations starting January 1, 2021. Increasing the business owner permit fees to be in line with garage rates will increase the amount collected there.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff requests that the City Council approve the Ordinance. Starting January 1, 2021 the two-hour free zone will be eliminated.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

1. Ordinance
2. Parking Map indicating Free Zone and the Number of Spaces

AMENDING PARKING ORDINANCES OF  
THE JAMESTOWN CITY CODE

By Councilmember \_\_\_\_\_

October \_\_, 2020

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Jamestown as follows:

**Section 1.** Chapter 290-33(B) is hereby repealed in its entirety, notwithstanding provision (A) which shall remain. Chapter 290-33 shall now read:

§290-33 “Time limitation in congested area.” Parking in the congested area shall be limited to the time stated on the instruction plate on the parking meter or on the sign within the specified parking zone.

**Section 2.** Chapter 290-47(D) is hereby amended and replaced as follows:

§290-47(D) Vehicles owned by any person, firm or corporation, which person, firm or corporation has a place of business physically located within the Central Business District, which person, firm or corporation utilizes a vehicle or vehicles while making service calls, deliveries or pickups in the Central Business District shall display on the vehicle driver's side sun visor or rearview mirror of such vehicle a permit exempting such vehicle from the provisions of § 290-33 of this chapter. Such permit or permits, as the case may be, shall be obtained by applying, in writing, to the office of the City Clerk/Treasurer and by paying an annual fee of \$600 per vehicle. Each permit shall contain the dates valid and the license plate number of the designated vehicle. Permits so issued shall be applicable only to the vehicle for which application is made and shall not be transferable from vehicle to vehicle. Any vehicle not displaying the permit aforesaid shall not be exempt from the provisions of § 290-33 of this chapter. Nothing herein contained shall be deemed to exempt any vehicle displaying the permits authorized herein from the provisions of §§ 290-35 through 290-44 of this chapter.

**Section 3.** All ordinances and parts of ordinances hereto passed which are inconsistent with any provision of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

**Section 4.** **Effective Date.** This ordinance shall take effect on January 1, 2021.



\* MAKE 2 meters ALL NE Corner @ Intersection 30 min



PRIVATE

\* 2 Hr. FREE

COURTESY NOISE ZONE

RAMP

RAMP

FREE

Fidelity Hall

4 Free 10min Post Office

