Naming the Parking Lot at Newman and Compromise Streets

R-6-16

Staff Report

This Resolution intends to name the City-owned Parking Lot at the intersection of Newman and Compromise Streets as the "Basil Lot".

The City owns a parcel of land adjoining Newman Street that is recorded among the Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Maryland in Plat Book 52A, Grid 0020, as Parcel 1256 (Tax ID No. 06-000-01407410), and also a parcel of land adjoining Compromise Street and Newman Street that is recorded among the Land Records of Anne Arundel County, Maryland in Plat Book 52A, Grid 0020, as Parcel 1248 (Tax ID No. 06-000-01407307).

The City operates a Parking Lot on the two combined parcels of land that is accessible from Newman Street. The City-owned Parking Lot has never been officially named but has assumed several aliases over the years, such as the "Fleet Lot", and "Fleet Reserve Lot". These aliases cause confusion as they draw false reference to private establishments and streets located nearby. For instance, the Fleet Reserve Club of Annapolis, Inc. owns and operates a private facility also adjoining Newman Street that includes its own parking lot that is not associated with the City-owned parking lot in any way. In addition, Fleet Street is a public street that is not associated in any way with the City-owned Parking Lot.

The Annapolis Heritage Commission met on January 25, 2017 to discuss the naming of the Cityowned parking lot and at that meeting it unanimously recommended naming the lot at the intersection of Compromise and Newman the "Basil Lot".

The Annapolis Heritage Commission thought it appropriate to name the lot after Joseph S.M. Basil who, with his partner, constructed a prominent sawmill on the land in approximately 1876. Joseph S.M. Basil was a distinguished merchant at Market Space, a downtown property developer, and contributor to the original Circle at the foot of Main Street. In addition, Joseph S.M. Basil served as Alderman for the City of Annapolis in 1863 and from 1873 to 1875.

Accordingly, this Resolution would dispel any future confusion in name and would also honor the contributions of Joseph S.M. Basil by officially naming the City-owned Parking Lot at the intersection of Compromise and Newman Streets as the "Basil Lot."

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