For Sale Vehicles Will Need Permit if Parked on Public Property

The days of slapping a “For Sale” sign in the back window of your vehicle and parking it out on the street in Milwaukee are pretty much over.

The Common Council voted 10-4 today to approve a citywide ordinance requiring any vehicle for sale on public property to display a special $40 city permit, no matter if the vehicle currently displays valid day and/or night parking permits. Specifically, the ordinance requires a seller to meet certain criteria and then purchase the $40 permit from the Department of Public Works before a vehicle could be parked on the street or in a public lot with a “For Sale” sign on it. The criteria that must be met to receive a permit include proving that the applicant owns the vehicle or that the applicant has the permission of the owner to sell the vehicle on the owner’s behalf. Also, the vehicle’s identification number cannot be altered in such a way as to render it illegible. Each “For Sale” vehicle will require a permit and each permit will be valid for six months.

The city will be able to tow parked for sale vehicles not displaying the permits.

The permits will be sold only at the city tow lot, 3811 W. Lincoln Ave., during its normal business hours (Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.).

The ordinance has been on the books – but only for certain areas of the city’s south and near south sides – since 2003. It began as a pilot program created by Alderman Bob Donovan, who said he initiated it as a quality of life ordinance “to keep Milwaukee streets and public lots from resembling used car lots” and to discourage attempts to sell stolen vehicles.

-More-
‘For Sale’ Permit OK’d/ADD ONE

But the ordinance, approved by the Council’s Public Safety Committee prior to today’s full Council meeting, has attracted a good amount of support from other Council members. For instance the citywide ordinance adopted today was sponsored by Aldermen Terry L. Witkowski and Joe Davis, Sr.

“There’s been a ‘snowball effect’ with this ordinance on the Council, with members seeing its value and asking that it be extended to their districts, “Alderman Donovan said. “It just made sense to make it a citywide ordinance.”

The ordinance will go to Mayor Tom Barrett for his signature in the coming days.

-30-