Downtown parking
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acquired only after the Sears lots had been acquired.

Goschke, and several other aldermen, opposed taking and destroying buildings at the corner of Sixth and Main because of the hardship caused tenants as well as owners.

He suggested taking money saved by not destroying buildings and “spreading it through the downtown” for other off-street parking, especially on the west end of the business district.

Strangely, after some downtown businessmen have been appealing for years to the council to do something about the parking problem, a couple of businessmen spoke out against it.

Otto Kaul of Music Monarch, 530 Main, said he feels the council is moving too fast. He didn’t want to see Main Street become one big parking lot.

Larry Gortmaker of A & M Jewelry, 532 Main, wondered why some businesses had not been solicited for private donations to help finance offstreet parking and what would happen to some $70,000 already pledged or collected.

Roger Schneider, chairman of the parking board, said the fund drive was a voluntary one and apparently some businesses were missed because they were not members.

City Atty. Ray Woodsend explained the money would be used to help pay off revenue bonds used to acquire the property.

Estimated cost of acquiring both the Sears and Patton properties is about $750,000, including buildings at Sixth and Main. No estimate of the cost for the new proposal was given.