

BOARD AND COMMISSION SUMMARY JANUARY 2021

Arts & Culture Commission

The Arts & Culture Commission met on January 21 via Zoom. One grant application has been received for the \$500 grant. The grant deadline is April 1. No applications have been received for the \$200 Capstone grant. Ms. Sennett spoke with the Town Manager's Office about the hardware needed for the Art Gallery. Commission members agreed a COVID Creative exhibit highlighting creative accomplishments by members of the community would be a worthy idea to pursue. The Goff House Concerts are expected to begin at the end of June for six Thursdays.

Board of Finance

The Board of Finance met on January 19 via Zoom for their regularly scheduled meeting. No action of note was taken. Discussion items included 2020 Audit results and continued discussion on a BOE non-lapsing account for unexpended funds.

Brownfields Redevelopment Agency

The Brownfields Redevelopment Agency met on Monday, January 25 via Zoom. The members were updated on items being worked on within the town including water and the St. Clements new banquet hall construction. The members discussed the properties at 1 Watrous Street, 13 Watrous Street, and 3 Walnut Avenue. The members also received an update on the power point presentation for the Town Council. The information and documents are being collated and included into the power point. It should be finished for the March 9th meeting.

Clean Energy Task Force

The Clean Energy Task Force met on Tuesday, January 5. Jessica LeClair from Sustainable CT presented to the members about the organization. There are 160 towns that are registered with the organization with 61 towns becoming certified and 1,855 actions being completed. There is a 6-step process that has to be completed to enroll in the organization. A resolution and project plan must be written up and approved by the Town Council to start the enrollment process. The members made a motion to come up with a resolution for the Town Council to approve to join Sustainable CT. The members discussed getting John Hall for the February meeting and John Greeno for the March meeting as presenters. The members also discussed the power plant down the river. Their generator system will be redone and will be blowing smoke pollution into town. The members want to talk with the contact person, John Greeno, about this upcoming problem.

Commission on Aging

The Commission on Aging met on Thursday, January 14 via Zoom. The members received an update on the progression of the vaccine roll out. They discussed the Senior Center budget and will write a letter in support of a full time assistant. They began discussions of a 2021 Round Table. The Housing Authority Director has been invited to the February meeting.

Conservation-Lake Commission

The Conservation-Lake Commission met on Thursday, January 14 via Zoom. The members performed five plan reviews. The members discussed the budget for next year and the watershed projects under the grant. There was discussion on the topics under old business such as the review of the RFQ for Lake Limnologist, the sub-committee report on education, the advisory panel update, the lake smart program, and the lake level.

Design Review Board

The Design Review Board met on Thursday, January 21 via Zoom. The members discussed and approved/recommended two plan reviews for 249 West High Street for a new gas station and for 97 Main Street for Po's Rice and Spice for new parking area, deck, and sight improvements. The members briefly discussed the new signage plan for the Gulf gas station in the Village Center. They contacted Jeremy DeCarli about an update, but there hasn't been a response yet.

Economic Development Commission

The Economic Development Commission met on Tuesday, January 19 via Zoom. The members discussed the Bells on the Bridge Project, the business package promotion and tourism, reviewed the approvals and minutes from the last Planning and Zoning meeting, new business banner locations, Belltown Spotlight on Business, and the town beautification. The members also received an update from the Town Manager regarding the vaccination process for employees and the public.

Ethics Commission

No meeting

Fire Commission

The Fire Commission met on Monday, January 11 via Zoom. The Fire Chief presented the members with equipment that needed replacing. The members approved of the equipment purchases. The members also discussed purchasing an online training model to fill in for in-person training. Since COVID-19 the in-person trainings dropped due to proximity and number of attendees. The Fire Chief and Fire Marshal gave their reports to the members. The members also discussed updates for the dry hydrants, the AC upgrade, and discussed the budget for the next fiscal year. The members approved of the proposed fire lane for 101 Main Street and discussed the contact people for the NFIRS reports for the state. The members nominated the Fire Chief and Marty Swan as the contact people.

Inland Wetland Watercourses Agency

The Inland Wetland Watercourses Agency met on Wednesday, January 27 via Zoom.

Continued Applications:

- A. IW-20-034: John Uliano, 29 Pocotopaug Dr., To construct a pool and 2 retaining walls within the Upland Review Area. Map 25/Block 64/Lot 20A-1. Approved
- B. IW-20-035: Edgewater Hill Enterprises, LLC., East High St., to construct Salt Pond Apartments (40 units); a phase of the Edgewater Hills Master Plan. Map 10A/Block 85/Lot5C. Approved.
- C. IW-20-039: Donald Ballsieper, Navajo Trail, New home construction with the Upland Review Area. Map 09A/Block 74/Lot 167. Approved.
- D. IW-20-040: Cary L. Gagnon, 5 Boulder Road, to install bike trails and wooden bridges

in the wetlands and upland review area. Map 03A/Block 44/Lot 23F. Approved.

New Applications:

- A. IW-21-001: Steve and Diane Lanney, 13 Sears Lane, to construct a new single-family home within the Upland Review Area. Map 04A/Block 63B/Lot 10. Continued.
- B. IW-21-002: Mary Ann Hubert, 68 Spellman Point, to enlarge existing deck by 4' within the Upland Review Area. Map 09A/Block 70/Lot 9. Agent Approval

Public Hearings:

- A. IW-20-036: Connecticut Contractors Group, LLC., Daniel Street, Subdivision. Map 13/Block 51/Lot 1. Approved

Joint Facilities

The Colchester –East Hampton Joint Facilities Board met on January 19th via Zoom. The Joint Facilities committee reviewed and discussed the recommended operating and revenue budget for 2021/22 fiscal year. Any changes or corrections will be made at the February 16, 2021 meeting. There was a force main break off River Rd. in Colchester. Repairs were made the same day with limited damages. Mr. Clayton presented a video inspection of the Middletown Avenue pump station (MAPS) showing the mechanical workings of the pump station.

Library Advisory Board

The Library Advisory Board met on Monday, January 4 via Zoom. The members discussed the Library budget. They also discussed and approved the revised Circulation Policy. This will be forwarded to the Town Council for final approval. The Library received a \$1,000 donation from the Community Foundation of Middlesex County. There are no restrictions on the gift other than it be used for something fun as soon as possible.

Middle Haddam Historic District Commission

The Middle Haddam Historic District Commission met on Thursday, January 28 via Zoom. The members reviewed and discussed a plan review for replacing existing windows with 12 over 12 double-hung insert windows. The applicant joined the zoom meeting to present and answer questions for the commission members. The application was approved of as presented. The members discussed the new proposed zone change in the historic district.

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board met on Tuesday, January 5 via Zoom. The members discussed the Master Plan goals and objectives and the timeline. They were also updated on upcoming programming. They were updated on the budget and capital projects.

Planning & Zoning Commission

The Planning & Zoning Commission met on Wednesday, January 6 via Zoom.

Public Hearings

- A. Application PZC-20-025: Z Incorporated / Cobalt Health Care, 29 Middle Haddam Rd., for a Special Permit and Site Plan Modification for a 2698 sq. ft. addition. Map 01C/Block 9/Lot 7. Approved with conditions
- B. Proposed Text Amendment to Sections 2.2, 4.2, 4.3, 4.4 and 8.4 to allow Veterinary

Clinics in the R-2, R-3 and R-4 Zones. Approved with changes

- C. Application PZC-20-023: JCG Properties, LLC., 9 Middle Haddam Rd., for a Zone Change from R2 to Commercial for approximately 5 acres to operate a veterinary clinic. Map 01C/Block 9/Lot 5. Applicant withdrew application

New Business:

- A. Application PZC-20-024: Paula Free, 249 West High St., for a special permit per Sec. 8.4 Motor Fuel Filling Station for a proposed convenience store. Map 06/Block 12/Lot 1B. Public hearing set for February 3rd.
- B. Application PZC-20-026: Long Hill Estates, LLC., Long Hill Estate Subdivision, for a Zone Change R-2 to C. Map 06/Block 12/Lot 8. Public hearing set for February 3rd.
- C. Application PZC-20-027: Connecticut Contractors Group, LLC., Young/Daniel Street Subdivision. Map 13/Block 51/Lot 1. Public hearing set for February 3rd.

Town Facility Building Committee

The Town Facility Building Committee met on Thursday, January 7 via Zoom. The members received updates for the architect, construction manager, and the OPM for the project. The AV is 95% installed. In the Council chambers, the original monitors were removed, and new, slightly bigger monitors were installed. This issue is being investigated and a solution will be discussed. The members approved of one change order and didn't approve of the other change order. The members also approved of one invoice and tabled the other two invoices.

The Town Facility Building Committee met on Thursday, January 28 via Zoom. The members discussed open items. They also discussed a change order that will be brought to the next meeting regarding a glass change. It was also noted that CT Water has approved a change to a 2" meter for water.

Water Pollution Control Authority

The Water Pollution Control Authority Board met on January 5 via Zoom. The reduced interest rate option on delinquent revenue payments mandated by Executive Order 2020-7S due to the Covid-19 pandemic is still in place. This is low interest rate program at a rate of .25% for taxes, water and sewer bills. Mr. Clayton reported on two (2) new possible subdivisions. One located near Long Hill Rd and their probability in connecting to sewer and the second is five (5) apartment buildings which will be located behind the Town Hall.

Zoning Board of Appeals

No meeting.