

## **BOARD AND COMMISSION SUMMARY JANUARY 2022**

### **Arts & Culture Commission**

The Arts & Culture Commission met on January 20 at the Joseph N. Goff House. The members discussed the new appointment of the Poet Laureate. Members reviewed the one grant application they received. There is still time to apply. They also discussed a potential event with the Garden Club.

### **Board of Finance**

The Board of Finance met for their regularly scheduled meeting on January 18. While no action was taken, there was discussion about possible future revisions to the Fund Balance Policy.

### **Brownfields Redevelopment Agency**

The Brownfields Redevelopment Agency met on January 24. The members received an update about the 1 and 13 Watrous properties from the Town Manager. The members were given updates on 1 Watrous, 13 Watrous, 3 Walnut, and 13 Summit. The members discussed which grants to apply for and which properties to use the grants. The members want to apply for a Historic Preservation Grant. There was brief discussion about getting more people to join the agency. The members discussed the RFP that had been sent out late last year.

### **Clean Energy Task Force**

The Clean Energy Task Force met on January 4. The members discussed bringing Earthlite Technologies back to hold more of a discussion. Another company, Connecticut Energy Network, was reached out to and the company is holding a webinar next week that the members can attend to gain more information and knowledge of the company. The members discussed the presentation to the Town Council about joining Sustainable CT. The members discussed retrieving evidence and facts to show how other towns joined Sustainable CT. This evidence will show the Town Council to understand how important Sustainable CT is in helping the town and the community with clean energy solutions that are attainable for everyone.

The Clean Energy Task Force held a Special Meeting on January 13. The members were joined by Patrice Gillespie of CT Energy Network to inform the members of the organization, to help/ give advice about how to start programs and initiatives in town, who can help the Task Force members, and gave the members an informational background on the organization and the other organizations they work with. The CT Energy Network works alongside with HeatSmart, PACE, and Sustainable CT.

### **Commission on Aging**

The Commission on Aging met on January 13. Members reviewed and edited the upcoming presentation for the Town Council on the Older Adult Survey.

### **Conservation-Lake Commission**

No meeting

### **Design Review Board**

The Design Review Board met on January 20. The members reviewed and discussed the plan review for a new building at 13 North Main Street. The members discussed how to make sure the roof isn't

higher than the existing building. The members made suggestions to the applicant in their motion for the plan review. The meeting dates for 2022 were approved. The Gulf gas station sign was asked about and briefly discussed. Jeremy DeCarli will be contacting the owners of the gas station to discuss the sign.

### **Economic Development Commission**

The Economic Development Commission met on January 18. Russell Melmed, Director of Chatham Health, joined the Zoom meeting to give the members an update about COVID and how local businesses are implementing precautions against the virus. The CDC information and guidelines are posted on the Chatham Health website as well. The members reviewed the P&Z minutes and motions from the previous meeting. There was brief discussion about the P&Z public hearing for the Atlantis gas station for a zoning change.

### **Ethics Commission**

No meeting

### **Fire Commission**

The Fire Commission met on January 10. The Fire Marshal gave his report to the members. The members discussed the dry hydrants, awards program and stipend, the tanker update, the fire boat, the fire lane, and the next budget. The members also discussed Company 3 running out of oil and talking about getting a contract with a local oil company to deliver to Company 3.

### **Inland Wetland Watercourses Agency**

The Inland Wetland Watercourses Agency met on January 26.

Continued Applications:

- A. IW-21-025: Middletown Sportsmen's Club, Champion Hill Road – Construction of Fire Access Road partially in Upland Review Area and a bridge over intermittent stream. Map 11/ Block 40A/ Lot 18 - Continued
- B. Application IW-21-026: William Carter, 23 Bay Road. Construct seawall along Lake Pocotopaug and regrade yard area. Map 09A/ Block 70/ Lot 23 - Continued

### **Joint Facilities**

The regular Joint Facilities January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting was cancelled due to lack of quorum. The Colchester –East Hampton Joint Facilities Board held a special meeting on January 25 via Zoom. The Colchester force main repair has been completed. Discussion of odor control from the force main will continue to next meeting. Review of the RFQ for the Middletown Ave. pump station (MAPS) was tabled to the next meeting. The Board reviewed and discussed the recommended operating and revenue budget for 2022/22 fiscal year. Any changes or corrections will be made at the February 15, 2022 meeting.

### **Library Advisory Board**

The Library Advisory Board met on January 3. The space planning discussions will be tabled until a new Director is hired. Members discussed the budget that was submitted by the previous Director. The search for a director is in process with interviews being scheduled in early February. The Library received a \$2,500 donation from the Community Foundation for use in "Spreading Kindness".

### **Middle Haddam Historic District Commission**

The Middle Haddam Historic District Commission met on January 27. The members reviewed and discussed three applications for Certificates of Appropriateness. Two were for replacing windows and

the last was for installing residential roof mounted solar panels. The members made motions to approve of all three items. The members discussed a possible light issue at 13 Knowles Road. There was a motion and approval to nominate Mr. Roberts as Chairman, Ms. Starolis as clerk, and Mr. Walsh as Vice Chairman.

### **Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board met on January 4. The board discussed the funding of a Full Time Program Lead/Administrative Assistant. The boat launch project is nearing completion and the ramp is expected to be completed within a week. The rest of the project will be completed in early spring. The survey is out to the town until January 15. A Memorandum of Understanding was approved for Glastonbury Rowing to use the park for another season. Mr. Hall updated the board on the capital requests that were submitted including pickle ball courts, reconstruction of the basketball and tennis courts at Sears Park and the Air Line Trail Gap Closure.

### **Planning & Zoning Commission**

The Planning & Zoning Commission met on January 5.

Election of Officers:

- A. Rowland Rux made a motion to elect Ray Zatorski as Chairman. Meg Wright seconded the motion. Vote: 7-0
- B. Ray Zatorski made a motion to elect Kevin Kuhr as Vice Chairman. Jim Sennett seconded the motion. Vote: 7-0 3.

Public Hearings:

- A. Application PZC-21-022: Atlantis Marketing, 1&5 Colchester Ave and 157 Main St. for a Zone Change from R-2 to Commercial. Map 07A/ Block 56/ Lots 21, 22, 24 Kevin Kuhr made a motion to approve the zone change for the reason that it is consistent with the POCD and would allow for redevelopment and improve the safety of the intersection. Rowland Rux seconded the motion. Vote: 2-5. Motion failed.
- B. Amendment to Zoning Regulations - Sections 2.2, 4.1.B, 4.2.B, 4.3.B, 4.4.B and Addition of Section 8.4.O and 8.4.P to allow for Home Occupations and Home-Based Businesses Tabled to February 2 by Chairman.
- C. Enact Opt-Out Provision for Accessory Dwelling Units as Provided for in Section 6(f) of Public Act 21-29. Tabled to February 2 by Chairman.

New Business:

- A. Review Commercial Zone Boundary at 265 West High Street Commission members agreed that the 30' strip of property was improperly shown as being in the C Zone on the map and instructed Staff to correct the zoning map. No motion necessary.

Old Business:

- A. Application PZC-21-021: Global 66, LLC, 265 West High St., Site Plan Modification, Map 6/Block 12/Lot 9 Ray Zatorski made a motion to continue the application to the February 2, 2022 meeting upon the applicants request. Rowland Rux seconded the motion. Vote: 7-0

### **Water Pollution Control Authority**

No meeting

### **Zoning Board of Appeals**

No meeting