

BOARD AND COMMISSION SUMMARY

MARCH 2021

Arts & Culture Commission

The Arts & Culture Commission met on Thursday, March 18 at the Joseph N. Goff House. The Commission members heard presentations from those that submitted applications for the grants they are offering. They awarded the two Capstone grants and will wait until the April 1st deadline has passed to award the other grants.

Board of Finance

The Board of Finance met on March 15 for their regularly scheduled meeting. No action of note was taken. The Board also held the FY2022 Budget Public Hearing on March 22 and Workshops on March 23 – 27. The first Budget Deliberation Meeting was scheduled for March 31 with the second scheduled for April 7.

Brownfields Redevelopment Agency

The Brownfields Redevelopment Agency met on Monday, March 22 via Zoom. The members welcomed a new member to the agency, Ms. Virginia Yenknier. The members discussed 1 Watrous, 13 Watrous, and 3 Walnut under Continued Business. There were a few updates to inform the members on the properties. The PowerPoint presentation to the Town Council was given two weeks prior. The presentation went well, and the PowerPoint was informative. There were two articles in different publications about the presentation to the Town Council. It was suggested to put the PowerPoint on the commission's page on the town website. The members briefly discussed reaching out to sister commissions about working on projects in the future.

Clean Energy Task Force

The Clean Energy Task Force met on Monday, March 1 via Zoom. John Greeno with New England Conservation Services provided information on energy programs the town may want to consider such as the Home Energy Solutions and some low-income programs.

Commission on Aging

The Commission on Aging met on March 11 via Zoom. There was a senior services report and an update on the latest COVID vaccine clinic. The members held discussions with the housing authority staff regarding any possible collaborations. Within those discussions the topic of reforming the 'round table committee' was discussed. This committee would be made up of the aging commission from 7 different surrounding towns. This committee would discuss and form programs to help seniors within their communities. There were also discussions of building an assisted living center for seniors not able to live alone and affordable housing in town to help seniors on fixed incomes.

Conservation-Lake Commission

The Conservation-Lake Commission met on March 11 via Zoom. There was discussion of the RFQ Proposal for comparing limnologist companies in the state for the town and the commission. NEAR was the only company to send in a proposal for the RFQ. There were two other companies calling for inquiries about NEAR's reputation with the town and the commission. There was discussion for the town to purchase the Christopher Brook property

using a partially awarded grant. There will be new articles submitted showing homeowners being awarded a plaque when they complete the Lake Smart Program. The commission was informed that the lake dam is not registered with the State. DEEP has no records for the dam. It was suggested to have the town investigate this matter and see if there is a resolution. The Friends of the Lake will be holding a Clean the Lake Day on April 24th.

Design Review Board

No meeting

Economic Development Commission

The Economic Development Commission met on Tuesday, March 16 via Zoom. The members discussed the progress of the Masks for Small Businesses Initiative, the updates for the bells on the bridge event, the tourism pamphlet, the members reviewed and discussed the minutes and motions from the current Planning and Zoning meeting, new business banner locations were decided, the Business of the Month articles for the last two businesses were discussed, and the town beautification topic was tabled for the next meeting. The members received an update from commission member Jace Doane about the meeting held by the village center business owners. The Town Manager updated the members on the town budget and how far along the budget is in the process.

Ethics Commission

No meeting

Fire Commission

The Fire Commission met on Monday, March 8 at the Company #1 Fire House. The Fire Chief and Fire Marshal gave their reports to the board members. There were discussions on the dry hydrant updates, the new software migration, the awards program and tax stipend, and the new budget. The members tabled voting on the awards and tax reports since the software was fixed and the revised reports were sent out. There may be a special meeting to vote on the reports. The members also discussed the eligibility of junior members qualifying for the awards program and tax stipend. There are no restrictions in the by-laws about that, but the members want to investigate the wording in the by-laws to see if there needs to be any clarifications or revisions.

Inland Wetland Watercourses Agency

The Inland Wetland Watercourses Agency met on Wednesday, March 31 via Zoom.

Continued Applications:

- A. IW-21-004: JCG Properties, LLC., 9 Middle Haddam Road, Cobalt, for a 2 -lot subdivision of property containing wetlands Map 01C/Block 9/Lot 5. Approved

New Applications:

- A. IW-21-006: Grasshopper Landscaping, LLC., 41 Meeks Point Road, to install a paver walkway and steps on south side of house, install a 10' x 10' gazebo with crushed stone base, install stepping stones under deck to fence, install (2) retaining walls with steps, install a 20' x 4' paver walkway from garage door to deck steps and to install a stone pillar fence along Meeks Point Road. Work is within the Upland Review Area. Map 10A/Block 83/Lot 8. Continued to 4/28/2021 meeting
- B. IW-21-007: Po's Rice and Spice, 97 Main St., install 2 concrete pads, a stone patio,

fencing, gravel parking lot and greenery in the Upland Review Area Map 06A/Block 57/Lot 1A. Continued to 4/28/2021 meeting

- C. IW-21-008: Long Hill Estates, LLC, Long Hill Road, for a 7-lot residential subdivision within an upland review area. Map 06/ Block 12/ Lot 8. Continued to 4/28/2021 meeting

Joint Facilities

The Colchester –East Hampton Joint Facilities Board met on March 16 via Zoom. Mr. Paggioli reported that the design specs are still being finalized on the Colchester force main repair and is hoping for construction to begin around May or June. A representative from Garland Roofing gave a presentation and report of the roof study done in October. Three roofing bids were received. The board approved a motion to authorize Scott Clayton, PUA to award the lowest qualified bid up to \$235,000 which includes a 10% contingency. Vote: 5-0, motion passed

Library Advisory Board

The Library Advisory Board met on Monday, March 1 via Zoom. The members discussed the Library budget and budget narrative. The Circulation Policy was approved by Town Council. A proposal was received from 4D Design and Decorating to provide space planning services for the Library. The board members discussed the proposal.

Middle Haddam Historic District Commission

The Middle Haddam Historic District Commission met on Thursday, March 25 via Zoom. The commission members voiced their concern for the zone change and their support in opposing the zone change within the historic district. The members made a motion to have Chairman Roberts represent the commission at the Planning and Zoning meeting to voice the commission's opposition to the zone change.

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

The Parks & Recreation Advisory Board met on Tuesday, March 2. Members received updates on the Glastonbury rowing and Wesleyan sailing MOU's. The Air Line Trail Subcommittee and Seamster Park Playground group provided updates. The Director provided an update on the budget and capital projects.

Planning & Zoning Commission

The Planning & Zoning Commission met on March 3 via Zoom

Public Hearings

- A. Application PZC-20-024: Paula Free, 249 West High St., for a special permit per Sec. 8.4 Motor Fuel Filling Station with a proposed convenience store in the Commercial Zone, Section 5.2. Map 06/Block 12/Lot 1B. Continued to the April 7, 2021 meeting per the applicant.
- B. Application PZC-20-026: Long Hill Estates, LLC., for a Zone Change from R-2 to C for a new 1.5 acre lot. Map 06/Block 12/Lot 8. Continued to the April 7, 2021 meeting per the applicant.
- C. Application PZC-21-001: Gloria & Troy DeLeon, 16 Wells Ave., for a Special Permit for an Accessory Dwelling Unit per Sec. 8.3.M. Map 05A/Block 63A/Lot 1B. Approved (7-0)
- D. Application PZC-21-002: Timothy Puglielli, 155 Middle Haddam Rd., for a 2 lot

subdivision. Map 02/Block 18/Lot 24-3. Approved (7-0)

- E. Application PZC-21-005: JCG Properties, LLC., 9 Middle Haddam Road, for a 2 lot subdivision. Map 01C/Block 9/Lot 5. Continued to the April 7, 2021 meeting per the applicant.

New Business

- A. Application PZC-21-004: The Dublin, 42 East High St., for a Commercial Site Plan Modification to construct a concrete patio for outdoor seating for 35 people. Map 05A/Block 62A/Lot 10. Approved with conditions (7-0)
- B. Application PZC-21-006: James Marino, Deer Meadow, for a Special Permit for an Accessory Apartment. Map 35/Block 95/Lot 7-44. Continued
- C. Application PZC21-007: Atlantis Marketing, 157 Main Street, 1 Colchester Ave., and 5 Colchester Ave., for a zone change from R-2 to Commercial. Map 07A/Block 56/ Lots 21,22,24. Public hearing set for April 7, 2021 (7-0)

Town Facility Building Committee

The Town Facility Building Committee met on Thursday, March 18 via Zoom. The members received updates from the Architect/Construction Manager/OPM of the final items for the project. There were brief updates on the Cherry Hill Glass change order and the drywall patching due to bench issues in the men's locker room. The three invoices from Newfield were tabled for the next meeting.

Water Pollution Control Authority

The Water Pollution Control Authority Board met on March 2 via Zoom. After a final review the members approved the 2021/22 WPCA Operating Budget totaling \$ 1,883,882.79. Vote: 4-0 Motion passed.

Zoning Board of Appeals

The Zoning Board of Appeal met on Monday, March 8 via Zoom.

Public Hearings:

- A. Application ZBA-21-001, Brian Galovich, 35 Highland Terrace, to increase the lot coverage to 17% to construct an 18'x36' inground pool with 650 sq. ft. of concrete decking around the pool and a 15'x20' pool house area. Map 18/Block 44/Lot 78-28. Approved.