

## Town of Franklin



### Planning Board

#### **April 27, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

Chair Anthony Padula called the above-captioned **Remote Access Virtual Zoom Meeting** to order this date at 7:00 PM. Members in attendance: Joseph Halligan, William David, Gregory Rondeau, Rick Power. Members absent: None. Also present: Michael Maglio, Town Engineer; Bryan Taberner, Director Planning and Community Development; Amy Love, Planner.

*As stated on the agenda, due to the growing concerns regarding the COVID-19 virus, the Planning Board will conduct a **Remote Access Virtual Zoom Meeting**. The Massachusetts State of Emergency and the associated state legislation allows towns to hold remote access virtual meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis. In an effort to ensure citizen engagement and comply with open meeting law regulations, citizens will be able to dial into the meeting using the provided phone number, or citizens can participate by using the Zoom link also provided on the agenda.*

#### 7:00 PM **Commencement/General Business**

Chair Padula read aloud the provided Zoom platform call-in phone number and the Zoom link which were also provided on the meeting agenda.

#### **A. Meeting Minutes: April 6, 2020 & April 13, 2020**

***Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes for April 6, 2020. Halligan. Second: Rondeau. Vote: 5-0-0 (5-Yes; 0-No).***

***Motion to Approve the Meeting Minutes for April 11, 2020. Halligan. Second: Rondeau. Vote: 5-0-0 (5-Yes; 0-No).***

#### 7:05 PM **PUBLIC HEARING** – Continued

##### ***122 Chestnut Street***

##### ***Site Plan***

***Documents presented to the Planning Board are on file.***

***Motion to Continue the public hearing for 122 Chestnut Street, Site Plan, to June 1, 2020. Halligan. Second: Rondeau. Vote: 5-0-0 (5-Yes; 0-No).***

#### 7:10 PM **PUBLIC HEARING** – Continued

##### ***Maple Hill***

##### ***Definitive Subdivision***

***Documents presented to the Planning Board are on file.***

***Motion to Continue the public hearing for Maple Hill, Definitive Subdivision, to June 1, 2020. Halligan. Second: Rondeau. Vote: 5-0-0 (5-Yes; 0-No).***

7:10 PM      **PUBLIC HEARING** – *Initial*  
***Zoning Bylaw Amendment***  
20-854 Zoning Map Amendment  
Water Resource District Map  
*Documents presented to the Planning Board are on file.*

***Motion to Waive the reading. Halligan. Second: Rondeau. Vote: 5-0-0 (5-Yes; 0-No).***

Mr. Taberner asked if the Planning Board needed to wait until 7:10 PM to begin this public meeting.

Chair Padula stated that because this is a virtual meeting, certain discrepancies in the public hearing format are allowed which are at his discretion.

Mr. Taberner said this Zoning Bylaw Amendment has been referred from the Town Council to the Planning Board for a public hearing. The Department of Public Works is requesting an update to the Town's Water Resource District Map regarding a date change. It is a regular housekeeping action.

Mr. Maglio confirmed this is a housekeeping action to reflect the new district boundaries as defined by MassDEP. He stated the District boundaries on the current Water Resource District Map were accurate as of March 28, 2008; however, MassDEP has issued subsequent revisions. The DPW is requesting that the Town Council update the bylaw to reflect the most current data as shown on the provided map. He noted that anytime there is a new data release from the State for futures changes to the District boundaries, future map amendments will be requested, accordingly.

Mr. Halligan stated concern for commercial development along the Route 140 area; he confirmed there were no changes in that area.

***Motion to Recommend to Town Council Zoning Bylaw Amendment 20-854, Zoning Map Amendment, Water Resource District Map. Halligan. Second: Rondeau. Vote: 5-0-0 (5-Yes; 0-No).***

#### **Chair and Planning Board Member Comments**

Chair Padula reviewed the next meetings are scheduled for May 4, May 18, June 1, and June 8, 2020.

Ms. Love stated that with the continued unpredictability due to the COVID-19 emergency situation, there is concern about when large public gatherings, such as public audiences for board and committee meetings, will be allowed in the Town Hall building. Therefore, Zoom meetings may continue for another few months. Planning Board members may be allowed to meet in the chambers; however, Zoom could be used to ensure public access. She noted that at this time there is nothing in writing about how future meetings will be conducted. As there are seven to eight outstanding public hearings at this time, she suggested they try to conduct a few of the public hearings at each of the upcoming Planning Board meetings in order to start the discussions and presentations. She noted that all provided documentation and information will be in the agenda packet for the public including site plans, public hearing notices, and letters. If the Planning Board is agreeable and would like to move forward in this way, she would like to use Zoom to conduct the public hearings at upcoming meetings.

Chair Padula stated this was acceptable as it is the new normal.

Mr. Halligan said he is okay with Zoom; however, he would like to have larger prints as it is difficult to review the materials from an 8.5" x 11" sheet.

Chair Padula stated that before the Planning Board members would be able to get larger prints, the Town Hall would have to open, the materials would have to be handled by other people, copies would have to be made, and the printed document packets would have to be distributed to each Planning Board member.

Mr. Halligan suggested the applicant mail the printed documents to the Planning Board members' homes.

Ms. Love suggested that possibly the plans could be sent to a print shop and Planning Board members could pick up the paper copies.

Mr. Rondeau said he would like to have printed versions of the drawings, also.

Chair Padula stated this should be discussed during the meeting scheduled with himself, Vice Chair Halligan and Ms. Love; they will try to determine a solution.

***Motion to Adjourn the Remote Access Virtual Zoom Planning Board Meeting. Halligan. Second: David. Vote: 5-0-0 (5-Yes; 0-No). Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.***

Respectfully submitted,

Judith Lizardi, AL  
Recording Secretary

***\*\*\*Approved by the Planning Board at the June 22, 2020 meeting***