



Rockport, Massachusetts Planning Board

Minutes of Meeting, Thursday, June 16, 2016 Rockport Town Hall Annex, 7:30 p.m.

Present: General Meeting and Hearing, Town Hall Annex 7:30 p.m. Meeting comes to order with Herman S. Lilja, Chairman; Edward S. Hand, Jr. Vice Chairman; Terence Duffy and Henry T. Betts present. Cameron Smith absent. Kirk W Baker, Town Planner, present. Minutes are recorded by Mary Bourguignon, Secretary.

1. 7:30 p.m. General Meeting and Discussion

2. Planner's Update - Informal Discussion - 12 Clark Ave. Road Improvement Plan. Mr. Baker said that Tyler Munroe, 12 Clark Ave., has submitted a copy of the road improvement plan showing that the part of Burt Ave. adjacent to his property is currently a paper street. What Mr. Munroe is really proposing to try to do is cut off the street where the existing structure is and set up a separate parcel off of the private way with a gravel driveway 16 ft. wide.

3. Green Communities Update – Ed Hand. Mr. Hand said the committee has picked their consultant and are now moving ahead hiring Guardian Energy Management Solutions out of Marlboro, MA. They have done this type of referral for lots of communities. They will do the initial assessment and see what the opportunities are, to get a 20% reduction in 5 years. Looking at the schools and the water and sewer plant. The money for the study comes from a grant.

4. Activities related to town-wide Master Plan – Cameron Smith. Mr. Lilja said Mr. Smith has been in communication with CIPC.

5. Traffic at 5 Corners – Cameron Smith. Topic to be covered at next meeting.

6. Issues for Fall Town Meeting

- a. **Drones – Terry Duffy.** Mr. Duffy gave each member a copy of the State & Local Regulation of Unmanned Aircraft Systems, FAA, Fact Sheet dated December 17, 2015. Mr. Duffy thought in the beginning that he would find a method to outlaw drones. At the same time Mr. Duffy presented a slide show, stating as he went along how drones can be used in search & rescue, law enforcement, and in the private sector for entertainment, private surveillance and investigation also agriculture. No recreational use of a drone above 400 ft. is allowed and that a Federal regulation oversees everything above 400 ft., requiring a license to operate a drone. The FAA is re-examining all of the information, having started in September, 2015, but they have not finished their work yet. Mr. Duffy recommended holding off on any sort of a drone bylaw until the FAA has finished their work. In the summary hand out Mr. Duffy gave the members it was noted that the FAA rules supersede any local ordinances.
- b. **Helipads – Ed Hand.** Mr. Hand presented a possible Warrant Article, Fall 2016 Town Meeting, Regulating Helicopters.
- c. **Zoning By-Law Updates – 2 Family Subdivision - Herm Lilja.** Mr. Lilja handed out a copy of the latest “Comparison of Zoning By-Laws from 2007 – 2014 Relating to Conversion of a Single Family Dwelling in the Residential District into 2 – Family Dwelling if Lot is less than the Square Feet of Land Area required in the Schedule of Area and Dimensions (Part IV.B)”. for the members to read and meet with their approval. Mr. Lilja said Paul Orlando, Building Inspector, looked at it and said it was fine. After all the members read the document they were in agreement of the approval. It will go to Linda Sanders, Town Administrator, and it will then be reviewed by Town Counsel before getting into the warrant.

7. Continuing Business, Liaison Reports, and Other Updates

- **Liaison Reports.** Mr. Hand met with the CPC on Tuesday night and approved their recommendations for CPC money.

- **Updates from Members.** No updates from members.

8. Planning Board Administration

- **Approval of Bills.** No bill presented for payment.
- **Approval of Minutes.** Minutes for June 02, 2016 were presented for approval. Mr. Duffy made a motion to approve these minutes. Mr. Betts seconded the motion. All in favor.

9. Adjournment. 9:31 p.m. Mr. Duffy made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Betts seconded the motion. All in favor.

Herman S. Lilja, Chairman

Date