

February 16, 2021

Call to Order: The monthly meeting of the Sterling Planning and Zoning Commission was called to order at 7:30 p.m.

Roll was called: Frank Bood-present, Dana Morrow-present, Ross Farrugia-present, Victoria Robinson-Lewis-absent, Michael Rouillard-present, Alternate John Angelone-present, and Alternate Kim Smith-Barnett-present.

No alternate was seated.

Staff present- Link Cooper, Jamie Rabbitt and Patricia Ball.

Audience Comments: None

Approval of Minutes: D. Morrow, made a motion, seconded by R. Farrugia to approve the monthly meeting minutes of 10/20/2020 as written and presented. All voted in favor of the motion.

Correspondence: Chairman F. Bood stated he received two copies of the Fall 2020 edition of the National Association of Realtors *On Common Ground* brochure.

Unfinished Business:

a. Discussion Regarding the Plan of Conservation and Development: Chairman Bood discussed the need to get the Plan of Conservation and Development completed. The town has had to apply for waivers and may lose out on grant funding if not completed soon. He asked if the data was now available to complete the report. J. Rabbitt stated the 2020 Census data has been delayed but there may be other population and economic data from American Counties Survey Data available that could be used to complete the report. He anticipates a draft available for the commission within two (2) to three (3) weeks, and a public hearing shortly after for the town to comment and review. Due to the current pandemic regulations, J. Rabbitt will verify with the Office of Policy and Management (OPM) whether a public hearing can be held, or if written comments can be accepted. Chairman Bood would like the report to include current data for existing residents and registered voters which includes the demographics of housing based on per capita affordability.

New Business:

a. Consider & Act on 2021 Schedule of Meetings: R. Farrugia, made a motion, seconded by D. Morrow to approve a modified calendar for the remaining months of 2021, specifically to move the meeting day to the 3rd Monday of the month beginning with the March 15th meeting. All voted in favor of the motion.

b. Election of Officers: Nominations were opened for the position of Chairman. Frank Bood was nominated for Chairman. There were no other nominations. D. Morrow made a motion, seconded by M. Rouillard to elect F. Bood as Chairman. All voted in favor of the motion. Nominations were opened for the position of Vice Chairman. Ross Farrugia was nominated for Vice Chairman. There were no other nominations. D. Morrow made a motion, seconded by M. Rouillard to elect R. Farrugia as Vice Chairman. All voted in favor of the motion. Nominations were opened for the position of Secretary. Dana Morrow was nominated for Secretary. There were no other nominations. M. Rouillard made a motion, seconded by R. Farrugia to elect D. Morrow as Secretary. All voted in favor of the motion.

Audience Comments: First Selectman, Link Cooper, addressed the members of the commission. He stated since taking on the role of First Selectman due to the passing of Russel Gray he has learned much more about what is required and needed in town and is learning every day. He further stated he hopes to attend as many of these meetings as possible, and if not him, then other members of the Board of Selectmen. He appreciates all the work the members are doing and is committed to providing any support he can so members should not to hesitate to ask.

Any Other Business:

a. Commission Workshop – Roles, Responsibilities, Policies and Procedures: Chairman Bood reminded members about the land use conference held every two years at Wesleyan University in Middletown, CT. The town had in the past covered the cost for members to attend. He suggested any members that wished to attend, to reach out to Joyce, the town Administrative Assistant, to register. The conference is highly recommended and provides a very detailed discussion on the state’s land use regulations.

Executive Session to Discuss 177 Gibson Hill Road – aka- Gibson Park, LLC: R. Farrugia, made a motion, seconded by M. Rouillard to enter into executive session and to include First Selectman L. Cooper and Town Planner J. Rabbitt in the session to discuss 177 Gibson Hill Road. All voted in favor of the motion.

Entered executive session at 8:35 p.m. and left executive session at 8:46 p.m.

There were no votes taken during executive session.

Adjournment: R. Farrugia made a motion, seconded by D. Morrow, to adjourn at 8:47 p.m. All voted in favor of the motion.

Attest: _____
Patricia Ball, Recording Secretary

Attest: _____
Dana Morrow, Secretary