

Sutton Planning Board
Minutes
January 23, 2017

Approved _____

Present: S. Paul, W, Whittier, R. Largess, J. Anderson, M. Sanderson, W. Baker
Staff: J. Hager, Planning Director

General Business:

Minutes:

M: To approve the minutes of 12/19/16, J. Anderson

2nd: W. Whittier

Vote: 5-0-0

Filings: The Board acknowledged the legal filing of the following applications which will be heard starting on February 6th.

- 82 Eight Lots Rd – Retreat Lot
- 79 Worc/Prov Tpk – Spec Permit/Site Plan – Rock & Recycling Equipment Sales
- 214 Worc/Prov Tpk – Site Plan – South County Chiropractic
- 27 Lincoln Rd – Accessory Apartment
- 140 Worc/Prov Tpk – Spec Permit/Site Plan –RI Hydroponics

Form A Plans: None

Endorse Site Plan – 77 Providence Road – Al’s Rubbish

Motion: To endorse the Site Plan for Al’s Rubbish dated 12/1/16 with a revision date of 12/19/16,
W. Whittier

2nd: J. Anderson

Vote: 5-0-0

Correspondence/Other:

- Zoning Practice - Information/Educational material for the staff and Board members.
- CMRPC Quarterly Meeting Report – No one was able to attend.
- Potential Additional Bylaws – J. Hager reviewed bylaws that she feel should go to Spring Town Meeting.
 - The first is the Village Center Overlay District Bylaw that the Board asked to be formulated last year. After nearly a year of work, a citizens group consisting of over two dozen people at times has participated in formulating a comprehensive regulation that allows some limited additional uses in a small area of Sutton Center with significant size and design controls. There are one or two meetings left before the bylaw is finalized for the Planning Board to sponsor its submission to the Warrant by March 8th.
 - The second article is for regulation of medical marijuana. This use cannot be prohibited and was approved by voters some time ago. The Planner has observed bylaws other communities have adopted and observed issues in order to select the best possible model. The proposed regulation is a combination of Amherst, Northbridge and Westborough’s regulations.

- The third article is a temporary moratorium until 10/31/18 on recreational marijuana to allow the Town time to see regulations promulgated by the State's Cannabis Control Commission (CCC) early in 2018 (but too late for Spring Town Meeting Warrant deadlines) and then have time to formulate regulations and bring them to Fall Town Meeting in 2018. A memo will also go to the Selectmen noting they can put a ballot article on the next State election prohibiting recreational marijuana all together, but it is prudent to have a moratorium in case they chose not to present this article.

On a questions from W. Whittier, J Hager responded that it is her understanding a committee that includes the Police Chief has been formulated to work on the design of the proposed Police station, and its proposed location at the Blue Jay parcel on Central Turnpike was a policy decision made by the Administrator and Board of Selectmen, as it is a fairly central location that the Town already owns. It is her position that this Police Station project will have to go through Site Plan Review process, although she has not been consulted on zoning or approval process to date. W. Whittier expressed concern that it seems like a major project that no one he knows, including the Planning Board members, is familiar with the project at all. He also asked if it wouldn't be more cost effective to have one building with all the Town's current needs like library, police and highway in one structure on Shaw Farm? J. Hager suggested perhaps he should have a conversation with the Town Administrator.

Motion: To adjourn, R. Largess
2nd: W. Whittier
Vote: 5-0-0

Adjourned 7:55 P.M.