

Norwich PC Special Meeting Minutes 01/09/2024 APPROVED 02/13/2024

Members Present: Ernie Ciccotelli, Vince Crow, Jeff Goodrich, Jaan Laaspere, Bob Pape, Kris Clement

Public: N/A

Meeting Opened: 6:34 pm

1. Approve Agenda:

Goodrich moved, seconded Ciccotelli, to approve the agenda.

Motion passed 6-0

A moment of silence and reflection was held for the passing of Stuart Richards.

It was noted that the PC will need to make an official request to the SB for a new appointed PC member.

2. Public Comment on items not on the agenda

N/A

3. Correspondence

Both King Arthur Flour and the Child Care Center of Norwich submitted Source Protection Plans. No action by the PC is required at this time.

Goodrich and Ciccotelli expressed frustration with the ability to access files from the town clerk, noting speed as an issue. This discussion was tabled for a future meeting.

4. Chair Report

Laaspere stated that the Listers are looking for a ruling regarding the requirements of a permit for consolidation of lots. This includes evaluating current state regulations concerning the issue and potentially revising the town's Land Use Regulations to comply. This will be set as a future agenda item.

Laaspere noted an application for a solar project at 557 New Boston Rd was submitted and will need to be reviewed at the next PC meeting.

Laaspere stated that adding overlays (e.g. ridgeline protections, scenic views) to the existing zoning district maps from NEMRC is possible and he will continue to develop a map to experiment with multiple layers.

Laaspere presented the timeline for the application of the AHSC planning grant. It will first need to be approved by the SB, then a final public hearing in the 1st week of February, then approved by the PC in time for the April deadline.

5. Norwich Farmer's Market

Peggy Allen discussed a proposal to move the Norwich Farmers Market to a new location across the street from the existing location. The new site would accommodate parking, space for a summer market and a building for a winter market. While the current Farmers market is in an area zoned as commercial, the lot across the street is zoned as Rural Residential. In order for the project to move forward, changes would need to be made to the zoning bylaws, potentially a conditional use for farmers markets in Rural Residential districts.

6. PD/ZA Candidates

Laaspere stated that the open position for PD/ZA has received 4 applications. The next step would be screening interviews with Laaspere and the Town Manager. After that, the PC will have a special meeting for an executive session to review and discuss the applicants. Ciccotelli recused himself from the executive session meeting.

7. Adjourn

Goodrich moved, seconded by Ciccotelli, to adjourn the meeting and table the remaining agenda items until the next meeting

Motion passed 6-0

Future PC Meeting – 2/13/24 at 6:30pm at Tracy Hall (also accessible via Zoom)

Minutes by Vincent Crow on 1/12/24