

IPSWICH PLANNING BOARD

MEETING MINUTES

Remote Meeting using ZOOM

Thursday, July 30, 2020 at 7:00 PM

Pursuant to a meeting notice posted by the Town Clerk and delivered to all Board members, a remote meeting of the Ipswich Planning Board was held on Thursday, July 30, 2020 using ZOOM. Board members Carolyn Britt, Paul Nordberg, Mitchell Lowe, Kevin Westerhoff, and Associate Helen Weatherall were present. Keith Anderson was absent. Planning Director, Ethan Parsons, was also present.

Nordberg convened the meeting at 7:03 pm with a quorum present.

Nordberg requested a roll call for all present. He noted the Board members that were present as well as Town staff, Ethan Parsons, and minute taker, Odile Breton.

Citizen Queries: None noted.

Continued Public Hearing: Request by Symes Development & Permitting LLC for Special Permit and Definitive Subdivision approval for a 35-unit Open Space Preservation Zoning (OSPZ) Development at 173 Linebrook Road (Assessor's Map 29D, Lot 21), located in the RRA District, pursuant to Sections V, XI.A and XI.J of the Zoning Bylaw and the Rules and Regulations Governing the Subdivision of Land in Ipswich

Nordberg stated the public hearing needs to be continued without discussion. Britt asked if the applicant agreed to the continuation. Nordberg said correct, the applicant agreed.

Westerhoff made a motion to continue the public hearing without discussion to Thursday, August 6, 2020 beginning 7:00 pm via ZOOM. Britt seconded. The motion passed with 3 votes. Lowe abstained.

Parsons stated the previous extension signed by the applicant is valid through August 7, 2020.

Consider initiating zoning articles for Fall Town Meeting relative to adult-use and medical marijuana, and a clarification amendment (previously initiated for 2020 Annual Town Meeting)

Nordberg stated the amendments were approved by the Planning Board before the COVID-19 pandemic. The amendments are shown as Article 17, 18 and 19 in the draft, numbers from the spring Town warrant. The articles include definitions and changes to the Table of Uses in the bylaw. They revise conditions, restrictions and certain approvals for marijuana establishments. Parsons stated that nothing has changed in the proposed articles since the Town warrant was previously published. Nordberg explained the process going forward for the proposed articles. Parsons stated that Town Council advised the Planning Board to repeat the full process for the articles. If the Board formally initiated the articles, Parsons would officially send them to the Select Board for referral. Parsons said the public hearings could begin on August 20, 2020. The Board is required to submit a report after the hearings.

Britt asked if she could present other proposals for Town Meeting. Parsons suggested reviewing other proposals at the next meeting when all the members are present and pointed out that a public hearing could take place at the September Board meeting. Britt asked if she could review her proposals briefly. Nordberg suggested it could wait a week for the full Board.

Lowe is concerned with a time element on two of three currently proposed articles. He said the existing proposed changes are closing loopholes and it is important to get the articles initiated. Lowe suggested putting other proposals on the agenda for the next meeting.

Lowe made a motion to initiate Article 17, 18, 19 for Town Meeting warrant relating to medical marijuana, recreational marijuana and clerical clarification changes for the Select Board consideration and to begin public hearings on August 20, 2020. Britt seconded. The motion passed unanimously (4 votes).

Documents:

-Draft Warrant v3 originally proposed for Spring Annual Town Meeting 2020 (pre-Covid-19 shutdowns).

Adopt Minutes of June 11, 2020

Westerhoff made a motion to approve the minutes as presented of June 11, 2020. Lowe seconded. The motion passed unanimously (4 votes).

Documents: Draft minutes of June 11, 2020 meeting.

Britt made a comment regarding the use of ZOOM. She asked decision makers to show their faces during the meeting. Nordberg noted issues with his computer camera. Parsons said there are no current Town policies with regard to the use of cameras for ZOOM. Participants are encouraged to use cameras.

Adjournment

Westerhoff made a motion to adjourn. Weatherall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 PM.

Minutes prepared by: Odile Breton

Adopted on: August 20, 2020