

Ordinance Committee Minutes

February 13, 2020

Present: Councilor Asherman and Councilor Hemphill (Councilor Cahan was absent)

Staff: Nathan Poore, Town Manager, Marguerite Fleming, Administration Analyst, Kimberly Darling, Energy & Sustainability Coordinator, and Theo Holtwijk, Director of Long Range Planning/Economic Development

Other: Nancy Lightbody, Conservation Commission Chair

The meeting began at 11:00 am.

1. Approve previous meeting minutes.

Councilor Hemphill motioned to approve the minutes; Councilor Asherman seconded.

Motion carried unanimously.

2. Review Draft Pesticide and Fertilizer Ordinance.

Ms. Darling reviewed minor changes to the reporting sections of the proposed Ordinance for Pesticide and Fertilizer Regulations.

The Committee reviewed the draft registration and reporting forms. The Committee discussed the presentation of the forms to the Council. The forms will be added as attachments to the February 24 Council agenda. Ms. Darling will meet with Portland staff to discuss their tracking and reporting processes. The Committee discussed a desire for the reporting form formatting to be compatible with the state log books and other towns' reporting forms. The Committee also discussed ways to make the reporting process simpler for the commercial applicators such as allowing them to photocopy their log books. The reporting forms will be posted to the sustainability section of the Town website.

3. Review Draft Ordinance to Prohibit the Sale of Plastic Straws.

Those present discussed concerns related to implementation and a desire to observe the implementation process in other towns. Ms. Darling recommended slowing the ordinance development process down and seeing how implementation goes in other towns. She also recommended including an awareness campaign highlighting businesses that have switched away from using plastic straws in the Earth Day 2020 celebration. The Committee supported these recommendations.

4. Other Business (Staff Update on Council Work Plan Tasks Associated with Historic Preservation).

Those present discussed the status of the Tidewater buildings and invasive plant removal process.

Mr. Holtwijk discussed three items on the 2019-2020 Council Work Plan pertaining to historic preservation. All these items were ranked low priority and assigned to staff.

Mr. Holtwijk reviewed a map of historic sites and homes in Falmouth built before 1945, the 2013 comprehensive plan archaeological and cultural resources chapter, the 2013 comprehensive plan archaeology action items, the history of historic preservation planning in Falmouth, and a 1993 reconnaissance-level survey.

Mr. Holtwijk discussed possible next steps for moving forward including applying for a grant to fund an intensive level archaeological survey of the three historic sites identified as top priority by the Maine Historic Preservation

Commission and updating/expanding the 1993 study. He also reviewed a document outlining considerations for zoning ordinance amendments concerning the preservation of historic and archaeological resources in Falmouth.

The Committee expressed support for staff creating a strategic plan for developing zoning ordinance amendments. Mr. Poore, Mr. Holtwijk, and Ethan Croce, Community Development Director, will explore ordinance development and come back before the Committee.

5. Next Meeting Date.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 19 at 8 am.

6. Adjourn.

The meeting adjourned by consensus at 1 pm.

Draft Minutes prepared by Marguerite Fleming.