

Ordinance Committee Minutes

August 28, 2020

Present: Councilor Asherman, Councilor Cahan, and Councilor Hemphill
Staff: Nathan Poore, Town Manager and Marguerite Fleming, Administration Analyst

The meeting began at 8:00 am.

1. Election of Committee Chair.

Councilor Asherman motioned to elect Councilor Cahan as Chair; Councilor LaFond seconded.

The motion carried unanimously.

2. Approve previous meeting minutes.

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

Councilor LaFond abstained from voting as the June 18 Committee meeting was prior to his election to the Council.

The motion carried unanimously.

3. Review Status of Work Plan Assignments.

Mr. Poore reviewed the Committee's 2020-2021 work plan items.

The Committee discussed potentially bundling the blasting regulations item with the noise and dust ordinance discussion as they both pertain to construction. Mr. Poore said that staff have done research on this item in the past but that blasting ordinances are difficult to enforce. The Committee decided to work on this item separately from noise and dust ordinances.

The Committee discussed the private property outdoor lighting item. Town staff can do research into what other communities are doing. The committee decided this item was lower in priority than its other assignments.

The Committee decided to prioritize consideration of short-term rental regulation. Ms. Fleming will provide an update on this item at the next meeting.

The Committee decided that eminent domain policy was a lower priority in comparison with its other assignments. Town staff can research what other communities are doing.

The Committee felt that noise and dust ordinances warrant further discussion especially as concerns had been expressed with current and past projects. Mr. Poore reviewed an email from Ethan Croce, Community Development Director, regarding the current noise and nuisance ordinances. The Committee discussed potentially adding time parameters around noise. Mr. Poore suggested narrowing the scope of the noise ordinance to projects that require Planning Board approval. Councilor LaFond said he would look into state regulations around air quality management. Town staff will bring forward draft noise and dust ordinance language and conduct research on other towns' ordinances. The Committee will continue to discuss noise and dust ordinances at its next meeting.

4. Discussion about store policies regarding single use plastic shopping bags.

Councilor LaFond said that he called the Centers for Disease Control. The organization does not have a formal policy and is leaving it up to the stores. Mr. Poore said this was consistent with Theo Holtwijk's, Director of Long Range Planning and Economic Development, findings.

The Committee decided to recommend that the Council adopt a resolution at its September 14 meeting to begin enforcing the single use plastic shopping bag ordinance again in four weeks.

5. Next Meeting Date.

The next meeting was scheduled for September 17 at 8:00 am. A second September meeting was scheduled for September 29 at 8:00 am. Ms. Fleming will send the Committee members a doodle poll to schedule the October, November, and December meetings.

The Committee decided to work on two different work plan items at each meeting going forward. Noise and dust ordinances and short-term rentals will be discussed at the September 17 meeting.

6. Adjourn.

The meeting adjourned at 9:07 am.

Minutes prepared by Marguerite Fleming.