

## TOWN OF FALMOUTH RESOLUTION VOTERS' PETITION REGARDING RESIDENTIAL DENSITY

- **WHEREAS,** The Council adopted Ordinance No. 10-2017 in July, 2016, which amended numerous provisions of the Code of Ordinances with the intent to implement the goals of the 2013 Comprehensive Plan; and
- **WHEREAS,** as part of that ordinance, provisions relative to residential zoning were amended to increase density in certain geographical areas of Town called "growth areas"; and
- **WHEREAS,** a voters' petition was submitted to the Town on April 10, 2018, reading "We, the citizens of the town of Falmouth, Maine petition the Town to rescind the Town Council decision of July 2016, Creating high density residential zoning in established areas of the Town of Falmouth."; and
- **WHEREAS,** the petition included 869 signatures and was validated by the Town Clerk; and
- **WHEREAS,** the Town Attorney, having reviewed the petition, has issued an opinion that the petition language is legally defective and that the Council is not legally obligated to place it on the ballot; and
- **WHEREAS,** the Council respects the efforts and concerns of the petitioners and wishes to be responsive to their desire to address this issue within the existing ordinance enactment process.

## NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF FALMOUTH ASSEMBLED THIS 23<sup>th</sup> DAY OF APRIL, 2018, THAT:

- 1. The Council acknowledges the legal defects in the petition language and will not send the petition to referendum; and
- The Council hereby commits to a public process to hear residents' concerns relative to high-density residential zoning, including conducing a public forum no later than \_\_\_\_\_\_, and to conduct a review of the current ordinance language that addresses it.

Attest: \_

Date:

Ellen Planer, Town Clerk