

Falmouth Town Council Work Plan Priorities

Work Plan Retreat: July 24, 2019
Presented: September 14, 2020

Challenges

- COVID-19 disrupted some of the work that was planned for last year. Council sought to restart priority items that were deferred.
- The Council also added new items to the Work Plan for this year.
- Expected revenue shortfalls at the state and local levels due to COVID-19 have impacted the Town's FY20-21 budget, limiting capacity for new projects and expenditures.

Council-Led Priority Items

- Continue to adapt to governing and addressing matters of public health during COVID-19
- Adopt and evaluate the Town's comprehensive communications plan
- Launch town-wide vision and values process to form the foundation for a comprehensive plan update
- Consider social justice and racial equity issues as they relate to Town policies and operations

- Clarify processes for Falmouth residents and businesses requesting zoning changes
- Clarify processes for Falmouth residents requesting street acceptance
- Consider acquisition of open space, including the Falmouth Land Trust's Underwood Forest project
- Consider support for development of a workforce housing project

Priority Items Referred to Council Subcommittees, Staff, and Town Appointed Committees

- Many priority items were referred to committees or staff for initial work
- If/when these items are ready for Council action, they will come before the Council in a public meeting and include opportunities for public engagement

Appointments Committee

- Help launch the Wellness Committee
- Develop and offer orientation for board and committee chairs
- Consider processes to address questions about the roles and responsibilities of quasi-judicial boards (Planning Board and Board of Zoning Appeals)

Community Development Committee (CDC)

- Review ordinance related to outdoor dining for long term planning
- Review 2019 Route 100 commercial zoning recommendations and report to Council
- Review and possibly amend ordinance related to maximum ground floor tenant area
- Review water view ordinance and consider amendments to clarify process for applications to BZA

Finance Committee

- Continue to monitor and react to economic impacts of COVID-19
- Set financial targets for Town and School budgets
- Continue to enhance coordination with School Board's Finance Committee throughout budget process
- Develop plan for rebuilding CIP/TIF

Ordinance Committee

- Continue work on regulation of short term rentals and make recommendation to Council if regulation is needed
- Consider a policy of eminent domain for Town infrastructure needs

Staff-Led Priorities

- Implement all necessary measures to ensure voting is conducted in an efficient and effective manner that is consistent with public health considerations due to COVID-19.
- Continue to implement installation of solar array at Woods Road landfill
- Continue review of Rt. 88 and Johnson Rd intersection for car, bike, and pedestrian safety
- Continued preparation for 2021 property revaluation

- Seek grants to implement electric vehicle charging stations at the library
- Meet with public transit providers to explore expansion of transit options to link Falmouth's commercial areas
- Continue implementation of Highland Lake Watershed Management Plan
- Continue implementation of Opioid Misuse Strategic Plan
- Continue to standardize all committee and board agenda postings

Conservation Commission

- Continue implementation of Healthy Lawns campaign
- Monitor implementation of Town pesticide application ordinance and make recommendations to Council as appropriate
- Work with new Sustainability Coordinator to develop additional work plan items

Land Management & Acquisitions Committee

- Adopt and implement LMAC's 2020 work plan items

Parks and Community Programs Advisory Committee

- Develop a comprehensive Parks and Active Recreation Areas strategic plan
- Develop a Town-wide public spaces improvement plan

Recycling and Energy Advisory Committee

- Continue to support businesses seeking to increase sustainability
- Consider stricter green building standards
- Develop a green procurement policy
- Develop a healthy nail salon voluntary certification program

Thank You