

HARWINTON ZONING COMMISSION MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 26, 2021 7:00 P.M.

VIRTUAL MEETING VIA WEBEX

Present: Chairwoman Michelle Rewenko, Daniel Thurston, Matthew Szydlo, Deborah Kovall, Alternate Member Theodore Root, Alternate Member Dave Foster, Alternate Member William Ponte, Land Use Coordinator Polly Redmond and Interim ZEO Don Truskauskas

Absent: Cynthia Kasey

1. OPEN MEETING – ESTABLISH QUORUM.

Chairwoman Rewenko called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. All regular members present are seated with Alternate Member T. Root seated for C. Kasey.

2. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS: 3/8/21, 4/6/21 SPECIAL MEETING, 4/12/21 AND 4/19/21 SPECIAL MEETING

D. Thurston **motioned** to approve the minutes of 3/8/21, seconded by M. Szydlo. Motion passed unanimously with T. Root refraining from vote due to his absence at the 3/8/21 meeting.

M. Szydlo **motioned** to approve the minutes of 4/6/21 Special Meeting, seconded by D. Thurston. Motion passed unanimously with T. Root refraining from vote due to his absence at the 4/6/21 meeting.

D. Thurston **motioned** to approve the minutes of 4/12/21, seconded by M. Szydlo. Motion passed unanimously with T. Root not voting due to his absence at the 4/12/21 meeting.

M. Szydlo **motioned** to approve the minutes of 4/19/21 Special Meeting, seconded by D. Kovall. Motion passed unanimously with D. Thurston and T. Root refraining from vote due to their absence at the 4/19/21 meeting.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT.

None.

4. DISCUSSION/DECISION – FILLING ZONING ENFORCEMENT OFFICER POSITION.

No discussion takes place as it took place at the last Zoning meeting during Executive Session.

M. Szydlo **motioned** to appoint Don Truskauskas as Zoning Enforcement Officer, seconded by D. Kovall. Motion passed unanimously.

5. COMPLAINTS/ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS.

ZEO D. Truskauskas gives Commissioners an update on the Kovall complaint against Hock of 797 Hill Road. Atty. Kent Mancini is still gathering information before proceeding. ZEO Truskauskas states that processing and screening is continuing on the property at 797 Hill Road.

He will follow up with Atty. Mancini concerning the Cease and Desist Order that is to be issued to Mr. Hock.

ZEO Truskauskas informs Commissioners that 231 Catlin Road was issued an approval to construct a home on the lot and has begun clearing the property but lacks erosion control. He spoke with the property owner who agreed to install proper controls. There are wetland issues also that will be addressed at the May 3, 2021 Wetlands Commission meeting with the property owner present.

Discussion takes place on applications that have been approved by Zoning and where work has been started or done with no phone call from the owners for inspections. ZEO Truskauskas questions how these can be tracked better with LUC Redmond stating that she will revise the Zoning application to include an “approximate start date” for the applicants to fill in. This will give an idea to ZEO Truskauskas on when to expect an inspection call or reach out to the applicants. It was suggested that perhaps the ZEO can call the applicants at the end of each month to check on the status of the project and remind them that inspections are required.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

Chairwoman M. Rewenko informs the Commission of the CT Federation of Planning & Zoning Agencies spring webinar where discussions were held on pending bills in the State Legislature that will remove local control over Zoning. She informs the Commission that the Town of Winchester’s Planning and Zoning Commission drew up a Resolution that states they “oppose the State Mandated one size fits all Zoning Legislation and any similar legislation that would further overrule, remove, or diminish local control and decision-making related to planning and zoning or affordable housing from their town.” This was approved at their March 8, 2021 P&Z meeting. She suggests that Harwinton’s Zoning Commission do the same with support from the Planning Commission.

7. INVOICES.

D. Kovall **motioned** to approve the invoice of the ZEO for 2.5 hours and 28 mileage.

8. ADJOURN.

D. Thurston **motioned** to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 p.m., seconded by M. Szydlo. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Polly Redmond
Land Use Coordinator

RECEIVED FOR RECORD AT HARWINTON CT

ON 5-3-2021 AT 10:50 am

ATTEST TOWN CLERK

Asst
Laura J. Boyer