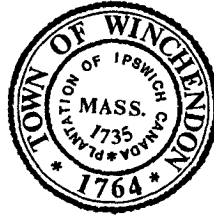


Approved: 10 / 20 / 2020

QSM
WINCHENDON TOWN CLERK
RCUD NOV 18 2020 PM4:08

TOWN OF WINCHENDON



Planning Board

Telephone (978)-297-5419

Regular Meeting/Public Hearing

May 5th, 2020

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Present: Vice-Chair Scott Robillard, Arthur Amenta, Joseph Sackett, Leston Goodrich Jr.

Tracy Murphy, Director of Planning and Development
Alison Manugian, Planning Agent
Keith Hickey, Town Manager
Rick Ward, Board of Selectmen Member

Absent: Chairman Guy Corbosiero, Burton Gould Jr.,

6:40PM- Vice-Chair Scott Robillard called the Planning Board meeting to order followed by Governor Baker's order on conducting remote meetings. He explained the rules and regulations for the meeting.

Announcements: None.

Public Comments: None.

Business:

6:35PM- Opening and continuing of public hearing for marijuana cultivation facility at 60 Franklin Street.

Mr. Robillard read the public hearing notice.

Mr. Goodrich recused himself from voting due to conflicting interests.

The public hearing was proposed to continue on June 2nd, 2020.

Mr. Sackett motioned to continue the public hearing to June 2nd, 2020 at 6:35PM, 2nd by Mr. Robillard.
Amenta (Y) Sackett (Y) Robillard (Y) 3-0

Discussion of Public Hearings via remote participation

The board discussed this topic at the last meeting and the consensus was to postpone all new public hearing until in-person meetings commence, unless there was a time sensitive matter.

Mr. Hickey stated he respected the board's decision on postponing new public hearings but things seem to be getting worse and constantly delayed, so he is not sure when public hearings will return to "normal". He urged the board to reconsider entertaining virtual public hearings due to the number of hearings that are ready to move forward, particularly concerning marijuana. Most of the hearings regarding retail marijuana have been favorable by the residents of Winchendon and are now just being put on hold.

Mr. Corbosiero joined the meeting.

Mr. Goodrich agreed with Mr. Hickey to a degree. He believes the public should be there physically in person, he is skeptical with the new zoom regulations and wonders if someone might challenge that it is not fair, they do not have access to the meetings, etc.

Mr. Robillard was optimistic in regards to hoping the meetings will be able to open to the public soon.

Mr. Ward believes the residents that truly care will find a way to participate and the likelihood of anyone being sued over this is minimal.

Mr. Sackett stated that even if things return to "normal" in the next few months he did not believe meetings with 20+ people will be allowed for a while. He suggested re-discussing this matter in another month or so.

Mr. Hickey does not suspect any lawsuits will come of this, the regulations are clear throughout the state. He is more concerned about the delay in these public hearings.

Mr. Goodrich suggested discussing this again on June 2nd, 2020.

Mr. Robillard agreed with Mr. Hickey to hold the public hearings virtually as to not delay them any further.

Mr. Hickey wanted to clarify, unless directed by Governor Baker differently, should the public hearing be posted publicly for June 2nd, 2020?

Ms. Manugian stated the recommendation is to request a 90 day extension and if it is denied, the public hearing will be posted for June 2nd, 2020.

Minutes: None.

Correspondence Summary: None.

Mr. Goodrich motioned to adjourn, 2nd by Mr. Sackett. The board unanimously voted aye.

Amenta (Y) Goodrich (Y) Sackett (Y) Robillard (Y) 4-0

Vice-Chair Scott Robillard adjourned the meeting at 7:13PM

Respectfully submitted:

Brianna Roberts

Brianna Roberts, Planning Board Recording Secretary

Guy Corbosiero, Chairman

Scott Robillard, Vice-Chairman

Arthur Amenta

Burton Gould

Joseph Sackett

Leston Goodrich Jr.