

TOWN OF WINCHENDON



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APR 01 2020

WINCHENDON TOWN CLERK

DJA
11:50 am

AGENDA & NOTICE OF MEETING

Pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 30A, Sections 18-25 of the General Laws, as amended, notice is hereby given that a meeting of the following board, committee, or commission will be held on the date and time specified below. Said meeting will be open to the public and press and will be recorded.

BOARD/COMMITTEE: Planning Board – Meeting & Public Hearing

DATE: April 7, 2020

TIME: 6:30 p.m.

LOCATION: Virtual meeting via Zoom

Topic: Planning Board Meeting

Time: Apr 7, 2020 06:30 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/789850459?pwd=WmhXdEhXZi9GWG5KV0dsVVBzVHRQUT09>

Meeting ID: 789 850 459

Password: 073151

One tap mobile

+19294362866,,789850459# US (New York)

+13126266799,,789850459# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 929 436 2866 US (New York)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US

Meeting ID: 789 850 459

Password: 073151

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/j/789850459>

Meeting Agenda:

1. Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance
2. Announcements
3. Public Comment

Notice- The above topics do not prohibit additional last-minute or unforeseen matters.

The meeting room is handicapped accessible. With advance notice the Planning Board can arrange reasonable accommodation for persons with other disabilities. To request assistance; contact the Department of Planning & Development at 978-297-3537.

4. Business:

Public Hearing: Miller's Run Subdivision Closeout and recommendation to Board of Selectmen

Discussion of possible appointment of Jill Sackett to the Master Plan Committee

Discussion and possible vote regarding glare complaint from Lincoln Solar installation

Tony Kurylo has reported that the glare from last fall has again become an issue on his property. The project was built in conformance with conditions and approvals. I would like a formal vote from the Board confirming that they have no jurisdiction over these concerns.

Update on Hale Street Solar – OYA Solar

OYA Solar was granted extensions of time to commence and to complete construction at a recent Board meeting. Town Counsel has opined that the board does not have that authority given that the site permit had expired. The applicant did not record the plan in the required window and the permission lapsed when construction was not begun. An expired permit cannot be extended.

Review & Discussion of Sign Bylaw

The bylaws currently ban, by specific reference, electronic message boards. Discussion of this topic at the last meeting indicated an interest in revising the sign bylaw entirely. A draft update of the sign bylaw is included in your packet, along with the excerpt that contains the current existing bylaw. Please review and compare then plan to discuss and alter the proposed bylaw.

5. Minutes – February 18, 2020
6. Correspondence Update – none available
7. Adjourn

Meeting/Hearings held pursuant to Governor Baker's March 10, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, §18, as attached.

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OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
STATE HOUSE • BOSTON, MA 02133
(617) 725-4000

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**ORDER SUSPENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS
OF THE OPEN MEETING LAW, G. L. c. 30A, § 20**

WHEREAS, on March 10, 2020, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, acting pursuant to the powers provided by Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 and Section 2A of Chapter 17 of the General Laws, declared that there now exists in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the 2019 novel Coronavirus (“COVID-19”); and

WHEREAS, many important functions of State and Local Government are executed by “public bodies,” as that term is defined in G. L. c. 30A, § 18, in meetings that are open to the public, consistent with the requirements of law and sound public policy and in order to ensure active public engagement with, contribution to, and oversight of the functions of government; and

WHEREAS, both the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (“CDC”) and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health (“DPH”) have advised residents to take extra measures to put distance between themselves and other people to further reduce the risk of being exposed to COVID-19. Additionally, the CDC and DPH have advised high-risk individuals, including people over the age of 60, anyone with underlying health conditions or a weakened immune system, and pregnant women, to avoid large gatherings.

WHEREAS, sections 7, 8, and 8A of Chapter 639 of the Acts of 1950 authorize the Governor, during the effective period of a declared emergency, to exercise authority over public assemblages as necessary to protect the health and safety of persons; and

WHEREAS, low-cost telephone, social media, and other internet-based technologies are currently available that will permit the convening of a public body through virtual means and allow real-time public access to the activities of the public body; and

WHEREAS section 20 of chapter 30A and implementing regulations issued by the Attorney General currently authorize remote participation by members of a public body, subject to certain limitations;

NOW THEREFORE, I hereby order the following:

(1) A public body, as defined in section 18 of chapter 30A of the General Laws, is hereby relieved from the requirement of section 20 of chapter 30A that it conduct its meetings in a public place that is open and physically accessible to the public, provided that the public body makes provision to ensure public access to the deliberations of the public body for interested members of the public through adequate, alternative means.

Adequate, alternative means of public access shall mean measures that provide transparency and permit timely and effective public access to the deliberations of the public body. Such means may include, without limitation, providing public access through telephone, internet, or satellite enabled audio or video conferencing or any other technology that enables the public to clearly follow the proceedings of the public body while those activities are occurring. Where allowance for active, real-time participation by members of the public is a specific requirement of a general or special law or regulation, or a local ordinance or by-law, pursuant to which the proceeding is conducted, any alternative means of public access must provide for such participation.

A municipal public body that for reasons of economic hardship and despite best efforts is unable to provide alternative means of public access that will enable the public to follow the proceedings of the municipal public body as those activities are occurring in real time may instead post on its municipal website a full and complete transcript, recording, or other comprehensive record of the proceedings as soon as practicable upon conclusion of the proceedings. This paragraph shall not apply to proceedings that are conducted pursuant to a general or special law or regulation, or a local ordinance or by-law, that requires allowance for active participation by members of the public.

A public body must offer its selected alternative means of access to its proceedings without subscription, toll, or similar charge to the public.

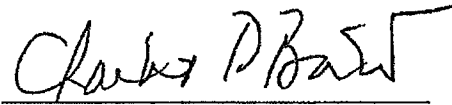
(2) Public bodies are hereby authorized to allow remote participation by all members in any meeting of the public body. The requirement that a quorum of the body and the chair be physically present at a specified meeting location, as provided in G. L. c. 30A, § 20(d) and in 940 CMR 29.10(4)(b), is hereby suspended.

(3) A public body that elects to conduct its proceedings under the relief provided in sections (1) or (2) above shall ensure that any party entitled or required to appear before it shall be able to do so through remote means, as if the party were a member of the public body and participating remotely as provided in section (2).

(4) All other provisions of sections 18 to 25 of chapter 30A and the Attorney General's implementing regulations shall otherwise remain unchanged and fully applicable to the activities of public bodies.

This Order is effective immediately and shall remain in effect until rescinded or until the State of Emergency is terminated, whichever happens first.

Given in Boston at 8:40 PM this 12th day of
March, two thousand and twenty.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Charles D. Baker". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR
Commonwealth of Massachusetts