

STRATFORD PLANNING BOARD

2020-11-17: Business Meeting Minutes

1. MEMBERS PRESENT: Rachel O'Meara, Vicki DeLalla, Bruce Blodgett, Clayton Macdonald, Denis Corbeil, Chase Cavazos
2. PUBLIC PRESENT: Steve LaFrance
3. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 18:30
4. Steve LaFrance discussed a proposal from William Haseotes to subdivide a 272 acre lot on Bog Road. He presented aerial photographs showing rough outlines of the new lot lines including a new road to provide access to the lots. After discussion about the proposal, no objections to the subdivision were noted. Steve said he would bring an application for the subdivision with survey plan to the December 15 meeting.
5. The most recent iteration of the Master Plan was reviewed for presentation to the general public. Various aspects of its contents were discussed for desirability in Stratford. It was agreed it was time to see what feedback the community would offer and Rachel said she would send it out to known interested citizens.
6. An amended land use ordinance draft, as developed by the Select Board, was discussed. There was much discussion about the conflict between property owner rights vs. land use ordinances. Much skepticism was expressed overall about infringing on property rights and/or the Town's willingness to impose regulations. The thorny issue of how to draw any boundary for a 2 district ordinance was debated. Also, the difficulties of satisfying all the requirements to actually get a proposed ordinance on the ballot for next Town meeting were noted. Clayton requested that Planning Board members send him any comments on the draft by the end of the week for Select Board consideration.
7. Rachel and Vicki reviewed their experiences when attending the annual Planning Conference online. Rachel noted that not having to drive to Concord to attend was very convenient and that she got as much out of the presentations as if she'd attended in person. Vicki reviewed in particular rural development patterns, workforce housing, and ways of managing it without undue restrictions
8. Reviewed minutes of 20-10-20, Approved Rachel/Vicki 5/0
9. Meeting adjourned, Rachel/Vicki 5/0 @ 20:27
10. NEXT MEETING: 2020-12-15 @ 18:30