

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

* MINUTES *

May 3, 2018

8:00 a.m. A joint meeting of the Board of Selectmen and the Planning Board was convened by Chair Daniel Matthews at the Needham Town Hall. Present were Mr. John Bulian, Mr. Moe Handel, Mr. Matthew Borrelli, Ms. Marianne Cooley, Assistant Town Manager/Director of Operations Christopher Coleman, and Town Manager Kate Fitzpatrick. Present for the Planning Board were Ted Owens, Paul Alpert, Marty Jacobs, Jeanne McKnight, Liz Grimes, and Director of Planning & Community Development Lee Newman.

Mr. Matthews updated the Planning Board on the Board of Selectmen's proposal to change the order of the marijuana-related articles, the proposal for a long range plan, the proposed deferral of the stormwater by-law to the fall, and the proposal to acquire 43 Lincoln Street. He noted that the Planning Board voted to withdraw the Chestnut Street zoning articles from the Special Town Meeting Warrant. He said that the Board of Selectmen is open to working with the Planning Board on up-zoning of the area.

Mr. Alpert stated that it is the Planning Board's position that the question of regulating marijuana is up to Town Meeting. If the zoning by-law doesn't pass and the Town is subject to challenge then so be it. He said eventually that subject will be settled in the courts. Mr. Jacobs said that if neither article passes the Planning Board intends to draft zoning for marijuana establishments. Mr. Owens said that he was comfortable with changing the order of the articles to have the zoning article proceed first. Mr. Alpert agreed and said that the articles should be discussed together. Ms. McKnight raised a concern about the current medical marijuana facility applying for a conversion to recreational use.

Ms. Grimes noted that it is important that the boards are together on this issue. Mr. Bulian said that he believes the General By-Law is sufficient, noting that he would have preferred to put the question to the voters. Ms. Cooley agreed that the boards need to be united at Town Meeting, although anyone can exercise the individual right to vote on the articles. Mr. Borrelli said he would support both articles. Mr. Matthews noted that the Board of Selectmen asked the Planning Board to draft the zoning article, and he will support it at Town meeting.

Motion: Mr. Handel moved that the Board recommend adoption of article 43 in the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Mr. Borrelli seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-1 with Mr. Bulian voting no.

Mr. Owens said that the Planning Board will continue to study the Chestnut Street area and would like to bring the concept back to Town Meeting as soon as possible in a different form.

Motion: Mr. Bulian moved that the Board vote to withdraw Article 13 (Long Range Plan) and Article 51 (Stormwater) from the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Ms. Cooley seconded the motion. Unanimous: 5-0.

Motion: Ms. Grimes moved that the Planning Board meeting be adjourned. Mr. Alpert seconded the motion. Unanimous: 5-0. The Planning Board left the meeting.

The Board discussed the upcoming meeting that has a light agenda.

Motion: Mr. Handel moved that the May 8, 2018 meeting be cancelled. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bulian. Unanimous: 5-0.

9:00 a.m.

Motion: Mr. Handel moved that the meeting be adjourned. Mr. Borrelli seconded the motion. Unanimous: 5-0.