

Derry Town Council January 22, 2014

Meeting with Boards & Committees

Town Council Present: Chairman Fairbanks, Councilors Benson, Wetherbee, Katsakiores, Cardon, Osborne, and Dimmock

Board Members Present: Allan Virr, Margaret Ives, Tom Caron, Lynn Perkins, Frank Bartkiewicz, Maureen Reno and Karen Blandford-Anderson

Opening Remarks – Town Council Chair, Michael Fairbanks thanked everyone for coming and read Section 4.8 of the Derry Town Charter which requires this meeting in January each year. Chairman Fairbanks asked each board/committee member to provide a brief presentation on recent activities, 2014 goals, obstacles, and support needed from the Town Council.

Conservation Commission

Margaret Ives, Chair – Spoke about recent activities with the Go Green Committee and the Energy/Environmental Advisory Committee their agenda of events. The Commission's first goal is to continue to hear proposals for construction projects and to make recommendations of the projects impact on natural resources. They also want to continue responsibilities that are prescribed by law and continue their involvement in stewardship of protected properties. They also have a volunteer land stewardship program which assists with maintenance and repairs of conservation land. Ms. Ives stated their obstacle lies with the ATV Club. The Town Council is scheduled to vote soon on the Collette's' Mountain property. Another goal is to revisit an Open Space Development Ordinance stating an ordinance is crucial because Derry is seeing more and more development and it is up to us to protect our resources. They would like to reconvene with the Planning and Zoning Boards on an open space development protection plan ordinance and also to propose an amendment to the zoning ordinance for driveways and parking lots to protect Derry's water resources.

Planning Board

Frank Bartkiewicz, Secretary – Gave a detailed overview of activities for 2013-2014 (e.g. approving 7 subdivision applications resulting in 32 new residential lots and holding 9 workshops). He explained that a change in use application is when a new store moves into a building which previously held a different type of business. In 2012 there were 31 change of use application in 2013 there was an increase to 43. The Board has worked on a new sign ordinance which has been accepted and is presently working on updating the livestock ordinance. Their goals are to review the land development ordinance, revisions to zoning ordinances and modifying and the ordinances to make them more user friendly. Their only concern is that there needs to better communication between the boards.

Zoning Board of Adjustment

Allan Virr, Chair – the board is at full staff and they presently have two alternates and very dedicated. They are interested in receiving more training in order to better determine cases and help citizens utilize their property to the best they can. There has been some unusual occurrences last year but he did not elaborate, He referenced Lynn Perkins as being groomed as the next chairman. He also requested more transparency between boards as this would keep them informed to recent changes in ordinances.

Councilor Wetherbee suggested that minutes & updated agendas be sent to the chairs of the boards.

Lynn Perkins- will continue to assist and cultivate new members.

Energy/Environmental Advisory Committee

Maureen Reno, Chair – In the fall the EEAC made a presentation to the Town Council. They continue to provide educational and public awareness events. Their goals are to promote energy conservation, efficiency and explore other ways to reduce carbon emissions in Derry. The Committee has held several public awareness events and also do a show on Derry's Cable TV. They would like to adjudicate the Council for a formal protocol which will enable the Committee to advise the town on making energy efficient changes. She also would like to see better communication.

Heritage Commission

Karen Anderson, Chair – The job of this Committee is to preserve Derry's past, work with the Town Historian, Rick Holmes and to run the Town's museum. They have completed an inventory of all historic items and the museum is staffed by volunteers. The Commission also provides tours of the museum for schools and other organizations such as Boys & Girls Scouts. They also sponsor Friends of Forest Hills Cemetery. Karen thanked the Town Council for their support.

Highway Safety Committee

Tom Caron, Chair – They are a reaction committee stating they receive requests and reacts to these requests. Some of these requests have been for street lighting, stop signs, striping and other safety measures. They collect information and dispense info to other boards. This year they reviewed a "Release of Public Servitude", consulted with Pinkerton Academy regarding a new crosswalk, a request for center line striping on Gulf Road. They have consulted on issues regarding double parking on Hummingbird and Cilley Roads going into Barka School as well as lighting between intersections (which Derry does not do). Their goals are to continue reacting to requests.

Adjourned 10:00 p.m.

Recorded & Transcribed: Denise E Neale, Town Clerk



It has been confirmed that the Zoning Board's decision is being appealed to Superior Court by the applicant (Dumpster Depot).

Councilors questioned why Town Council wasn't informed of hiring another attorney for the board.

Paul Beliveau, Domac Dr - echoed concerns. What is the process?

Mark Flattes – was pleased with the no smoking rules. He still believes the Town Council should set up a meeting with NHMA regarding ethics.


Close Public Forum 7-0-0

Council Requests / Open Discussion

Katsakiores - Reminder the Police Department's Blood Drive is 1/24/14 and many of the area food establishments are donating food for this event.

Dimmock – Wanted to remark upon an email alleging that the Town's Highway Department hadn't done its job regarding plowing. Both streets mentioned in the email are not plowed by the Town; they are plowed by NHDOT. Considering the storm, the Town's Highway Department has done a great job.

Adjournment 9:05pm


Denise E. Neale
Town Clerk

2/5/14
Date

Recording & Transcription by: Denise E Neale, Town Clerk
Reviewed by: Larry Budreau, Acting Town Administrator