

NEWPORT CITY PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
December 6th, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Charles Elliott, Robert Currier, Clark Curtis, Woodman Page and Dan Ross.

MEMBERS ABSENT: None.

OTHERS PRESENT: None.

7:15 p.m. Chair Charles Elliott called the meeting to order. Dan Ross moved to approve the minutes of the November 22nd, 2016 meeting. This was seconded by Robert Currier.
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS DECISION.

7:17 p.m. Review of Changing the Zone From Industrial to Commercial-B For Properties Fronting on East Main Street Between the City Center Industrial Park and Existing Commercial-B Zone on Western Side of North Country Credit Union: Chair Elliott stated that he would move forward with a report if the Commission was still happy with the proposed change. Clark Curtis asked and received a map to again review the area in question. Charles Elliott promised to include a map with the report. Dan Ross asked if a change was needed in the description of the Objective on the Bylaw 304.05. It was determined that the objective's first sentence would now read as follows: "Commercial Zones have evolved into a mix of commercial and residential uses." The remaining wording will stay the same. Chair Elliott will add the changes discussed above and set a date for a public hearing.

7:32 p.m. Review of Certificate of Occupancy For All New Construction, Change of Property Ownership, and Change of Tenant For All Non-residential Properties: Chair Elliott informed the Commission that he had reviewed the State Statutes listed and reported all were up to date. One typo was addressed under the section - For Administrative Use Only - ; which would be corrected for the final report.

7:38 p.m. Review of Shore Land Control District Language: The City Bylaw 304.09 Shore Land Control District is now in synch with the State Statute. Chair Elliott provided members of the Commission with the draft changes showing the new material which would be added as well as deletions. Here again, Charles Elliott will create a report and set a date for a public hearing.

7:42 p.m. Report on the Additional Language to Bylaw Section 427 B Animals to Include All Animals Kept in the City: Chair Elliott explained the added material that was to be included in the bylaw amendment. Previous work which the Planning Commission had completed on the Chicken Ordinance was still awaiting the City Attorney to provide legal wording for the Enforcement Section. The Planning Commission will still be required to approve the Chicken Ordinance prior to it finally being submitted to the City Council.

7:53 p.m. Other Business: Dan Ross identified items within the City Bylaws which he wants to see corrected. One item related to cross references with relation to Adult bookstore, Adult Video, and Cabaret. These items that were not permitted in one reference were not listed in another table. Chair Elliott warned that this issue was currently being legally challenged within Shelburne, but Dan Ross objected and felt that it should be included within the bylaw until it is not legally permitted. Dan Ross inquired on how city permits were issued and requested that this procedure should be included within the City Bylaws. Other concerns were correcting numbering as well as the typographical errors. Dan Ross emphasized that the city should have a very professional and thorough bylaw for public use. Dan Ross also offered his assistance with the bylaw updates.

Dan Ross raised his concern over outside storage of piles of tires near the side of the road on East Main Street.

Clark Curtis raised the issue of emails that were submitted by Woodman Page to members of the Planning Commission. Pam Ladds had sent an email to Woodman Page asking if members of the commission were aware that the City Council would be discussing zoning and planning update on issues by Charles Elliott with possible executive session and vote. Chair Elliott had in turn responded by sending an email where he stated that a Planning Commission meeting would be held on 6 December and that it had been properly warned. Clark Curtis stated that he was raising the issue so that the Planning Commission would not be in violation of the Open Meeting Law. Charles Elliott was at the City Council meeting to discuss work that the Planning Commission was doing as well as the un-permitted junkyard on East Main Street. Charles Elliott also had hoped to discuss in executive session other items such as the zoning budget and human resource issues related to his work load. Charles Elliott was not permitted to participate in an executive session.

8:32 p.m Next Meeting: The next meeting will be scheduled for January 3rd, 2017, at 7p.m.

8:35 p.m. Clark Curtis made a motion to adjourn. This was seconded by Dan Ross.
APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS DECISION.

Minutes taken and transcribed by Woodman Page

Approved: _____

Date: _____

1-3-17