

Present: Patty Chaffee – Chair; Alan Putnam – Vice Chair; Alissa Bascom; Keith Weed; Richard Carter; Bill Rescsanski

Alternates: Rosie Smith-Hull; Lenny Ostasiewski

Absent: Gabe Bailey

Staff: Liz Emerson

Public: Albert St. Pierre

Patty Chaffee called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Approval of minutes of 07/19/2022:

Motion by Ms. Bascom to accept the July 19, 2022 minutes as submitted, seconded by Mr. Weed.
7-0-0, motion approved.

Agenda Review: none

Applications:

Howard Bowie Sign Application

Ms. Emerson explained that she received verbal confirmation from the abutter at #42, before she passed away, that the sign is approved to be placed on her property. Ms. Chaffee asked that this be confirmed with the other occupant of #42.

Motion by Mr. Carter to approve the sign application for Howard Bowie, conditioned on written approval from the abutter at #42, seconded by Ms. Bascom.
7-0-0, motion approved.

Continued Business:

79-E Map

Ms. Emerson explained that the map shows the proposed boundaries for north Charlestown and downtown. Ms. Bascom asked if both sides of West Street should be eligible. The Board considered reviewing the map in live time at its next meeting to make proposed changes. Ms. Emerson suggested that the map could be based on a certain distance out from the center of Route 12.

New Business:

Motion by Ms. Smith-Hull to allow Ms. Emerson to draft a letter on behalf of the Planning Board to the Selectboard to request consideration of the concerns regarding biosolids through the Health Ordinance, seconded by Mr. Rescsanski.
7-0-0; motion approved.

Administration:

InvestNH Grant Program

Ms. Emerson stated that she does not believe much of this funding will be able to be utilized by the Town. \$10,000 has been set aside for each municipality that creates housing units, but these must be completed and occupied by May 3, 2024. The project must include a minimum of three affordable units. The Town does not have any current project proposed which will meet this deadline. There is also a Demolition Grant for delapidated or vacant properties, but these must be revitalized into green space, community gardens, housing, etc. Both grant programs will run until the money is expended.

The Board discussed applying for the affordable housing grant in case a project becomes available in the near future.

Communications:

There was discussion regarding creating a new Visitor's Center at the Fort at No. 4. Ms. Chaffee asked if this would meet the zoning items for the Fort, such as restoration and keeping with the Master Plan of the Fort. The proposal does not, at initial glance, seem to keep with the architecture of the original building, as per the zoning.

Mr. Carter stated that a concerned citizen addressed him regarding the possibility of a waste treatment center, processing some industrial waste, being moved into Charlestown. Ms. Chaffee stated that a warrant article could be added to address this through a zoning perspective. Ms. Emerson stated that the potential location for this is in Zone F-2, which would disallow this type of center.

Motion by Ms. Bascom to adjourn at 7:47pm, seconded by Mr. Carter.
7-0-0; motion approved. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristan Patenaude
Recording Secretary