

## **PLANNING BOARD MINUTES**

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

### **RE: RULES GOVERNING SPECIAL PERMITS**

**MARCH 12, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**

*115 Pleasant Street, Room 201, Hubbard Conference Room, Gardner, Massachusetts 01440*

**Members present:** Allen L. Gross/*Chairman*, Robert J. Bettez, Sr. /*Vice-Chairman*, Robert Swartz, Laura Casker, and Mark Schafron/*Members*, and Trevor Beauregard/*Director-City Planner*.

**Members absent:** *None.*

**Also present:** Chris Coughlin-Engineering, Christine Fucile-DCDP.

ANNOUNCEMENT - Any person may make a video or audio recording of an open session of a meeting, or may transmit the meeting through any medium, subject to reasonable requirements of the Chair as to the number, placement and operation of equipment used so as not to interfere with the conduct of the meeting. Any person intending to make such recording shall notify the Chair forthwith. All Documents referenced or used during the meeting must be submitted in duplicate to the Director of Community Development & Planning pursuant to the Open Meeting and Public Records Law. All documents shall become part of the official record of the meeting.

***Mr. Gross, Chairman called the Public Hearing to order at 7:00 p.m., and noted this was discussed last month on what the changes would involve.***

***Mr. Gross stated this meeting is being recorded for the minutes, however, if there is anyone who wishes to record, please inform.***

***T. Beauregard said through the Zoning Code update, the following changes were made:***

- ✓ **Eliminated:** Industrial & Commercial Heritage Planned Unit Development section.
- ✓ **Added:** Marijuana Establishments (*a new special permit the Planning Board now has jurisdiction over*).
- ✓ **Added:** Flood Plain, sheds not necessary to Flood Plain uses (*was previously under the Zoning Board of Appeals*).
- ✓ **Added:** Senior Residential Development,
- ✓ **Added:** Accessory Uses to Assisted Living Residents or Continuing Care Retirement Community.

The Fee chart was updated as well, increasing the fees to now include legal notice Ad costs for public hearings/public informational meetings.

Mr. Gross commented no public is in attendance this evening, therefore, asked the Board if they have any questions. M. Schafron inquired if the newspaper fees go up, will the Board have to meet again with a Public Hearing to approve the increase. T. Beauregard said typically the fees

are not raised that much. In addition, there is a small cushion added into the new fees. T. Beauregard also said the Planning Board can raise their fees at any time as it is a Planning Board function, and does not require any other approvals.

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***Mr. Gross, Chairman once again noted there was no public in attendance at this meeting, and closed the Public Hearing.***

**The Public Hearing adjourned at 7:06 p.m.**

All documents referenced or used during the meeting are part of the official record and are available in the Department of Community Development and Planning pursuant to the Open Meeting and Public Records Law.
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