

**Town of West Windsor
Special Selectboard Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 21, 2024 @ 6:30pm
Town Hall and Zoom**

Present in Person: Mark Higgins, Mark Harley, John Brodie, Deb Shearer, Matt Frederick, Ted Siegler, Claudia Sacuk, Nancy & Chris Nesbitt, Peter Varkonyi, Shannon Harrington

Present via Zoom: Jess Brodie, Sandi Brown, Shelley Seward, Susan Yost, Debbie Klene, Win Johnson

1. Call to Order

A quorum being present, Mark Higgins called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

2. Changes or Additions to Agenda

None.

3. Announcements/Public Comment

None.

4. Event App – SCIP Halloween Walk @ Ascutney Outdoors (10/25)

Jess Brodie of the School & Community in Partnership (SCIP) organization presented the details of the 2024 SCIP Halloween Walk, to take place at Ascutney Outdoors from 5:00pm to 7:00pm on Friday, October 25th. As in previous years, attendees will be required to sign a liability waiver to participate.

Mark Harley motioned to approve the event application for the 2024 SCIP Halloween Walk at Ascutney Outdoors on October 25th. John Brodie seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

5. Public Hearing: Land Use & Development Bylaws

Mark Higgins opened the Public Hearing to discuss the Land Use & Development Bylaws at 6:35pm. Zoning Administrator Deb Shearer gave an overview of the changes and amendments made by the Planning Commission to the previous iteration of the Bylaws.

The Selectboard and Zoning Administrator fielded questions and comments from the public relating to this topic, including the removal of Short-Term Rental language from the draft Bylaws amendment in favor of creating a Short-Term Rental Ordinance, seasonal seating for

local businesses, minimum lot size for properties in secondary growth districts, and the updated Zoning Map.

Peter Varkonyi stated that parking in the village remains an issue and asked for the town to continue investigating solutions regarding this challenge. There was a discussion on this topic, with Mark Higgins noting that the Selectboard is willing to consider proposals from the public on potential solutions.

The Public Hearing for the Land Use & Development Bylaws was closed at 7:17pm. The Selectboard will address these Bylaws at their next meeting on Monday, October 28th.

6. Public Hearing: Flood Hazard Area & River Corridor Bylaws

Mark Higgins opened the Public Hearing to discuss the Flood Hazard Area & River Corridor Bylaws at 7:17pm. Zoning Administrator Deb Shearer and Conservation Commission Chair Ted Siegler spoke about the Bylaws, with Ted noting the importance of enacting regulations to help protect the town and its residents from future flood events. The State of Vermont is currently moving towards state regulation of floodplains and river corridors beginning in 2028.

The Selectboard, Zoning Administrator, and Conservation Commission Chair fielded questions and comments from the public relating to this topic, including restrictions on building in flood hazard areas (in-fill and down river shadow development), the procedure for contesting the boundaries of the Flood Hazard Area and River Corridor Map, the current flood mitigation project behind the Fire Station, and municipal implementation of these Bylaws, including the potential for bringing in a certified engineer in circumstances that require technical expertise.

The Public Hearing for the Flood Hazard Area & River Corridor Bylaws was closed at 7:51pm. The Selectboard will address these Bylaws at their next meeting on Monday, October 28th.

7. Other Business

None.

8. Adjourn

Upon motion duly made and seconded, the Selectboard unanimously voted to adjourn at 7:51pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Matt Frederick
Town Administrator