

**NEWTON PLANNING BOARD  
PUBLIC HEARING AND MEETING MINUTES  
December, 30, 2019**

In attendance: Chair Barbara White, Vice-Chair Roger Hamel, members: Michael Andrews, James White; and alternate Paul Szot. Minutes were taken and transcribed by Administrative Assistant James Doggett.

Chairman White opened the Public Hearing at 7:00PM

Chairman White appointed Mr. Szot as a voting member in Mr. Holland's absence.

Ms. White read the Notice: Notice is hereby given of a PUBLIC HEARING to be held by the Newton Planning Board on Monday, December 30, 2019 beginning at 7:00 pm at the Newton Town Hall to review proposed amendments to the Town Zoning Ordinance pertaining to:

Article 1: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Newton Zoning Ordinance as follows:

**Amendment 1 - Expiration of variances and special exceptions granted prior to 2013.**

In Section X add the following:

*13. As authorized by State of NH RSA 674:33.I-a, Variances granted on or after August 19, 2013 shall be valid only if exercised within two (2) years from the date of final approval. Variances granted before August 19, 2013 shall be valid only if exercised within two (2) years from March 11, 2021.*

*14. As authorized by State of NH RSA 674:33.IV, Special Exceptions granted on or after August 19, 2013 shall be valid only if exercised within two (2) years from the date of final approval. Special Exceptions granted before August 19, 2013 shall be valid only if exercised within two (2) years from March 11, 2021.*

A comment was made by a member of the audience that this amendment seemed unfair as it would void variances an applicant had won. Mr. Hamel reminded the public that section 13 referred to variances that would be at least 10 years old but not used.

Moved to place the question on the ballot by Mr. Hamel, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Szot, Vote: unanimous

Moved to recommend by Mr. Hamel, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Andrews, Vote: 5-yea 0-no

Chairman White read Article #2:

Article 2: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #2 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Newton Zoning Ordinance as follows:

**Amendment 2 - Rezoning old fire station from residential to commercial.**

In Appendix D – Commercial Zone - Parcel List, add the following

South Main Street: Map 12 **Block 1: Lot 11**

Planning Board Minutes December 30th, 2019

All minutes are in draft form until approved by the Planning Board.

Please check subsequent minutes for approval of and/or amendments to these minutes.

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Moved to place the question on the ballot by Mr. Andrews, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. White, Vote: unanimous

Moved to recommend by Mr. Szot, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Hamel, Vote: 5-yea 0-no

Chairman White read the following statement:

**THIS ARTICLE IS BEING BROUGHT FORWARD AMENDED FOR A MISSING WORD**

She then read Article #3:

Article 1: Are you in favor of the adoption of Amendment #1 as proposed by the Planning Board for the Town of Newton Zoning Ordinance as follows:

**Amendment 3 – Amend general zoning provisions to automatically use most current building codes and fire codes.**

In Section X add the following:

**12. Building Safety**

- a. The **current** State Building Codes are RSA 155A (International Building Code) and **current** Saf-C 6000 (State Fire Code). These codes are the statewide minimum requirements, which shall serve as the building code for the Town of Newton.
- b. All new construction for residential or commercial use, shall be equipped by the owner with approved smoke detectors/carbon monoxide detectors as per **current** National Fire Protection Assoc. (NFPA) 72 101; RSA 153:10:6; Saf-C 6000 and shall be inspected and approved by the Newton Fire Chief or his/her designee.

Moved to place the question on the ballot by Mr. Andrews, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Hamel, Vote: unanimous

Moved to recommend by Mr. Szot, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Andrews, Vote: 5-yea 0-no

He Chair closed the Public Hearing at:7:14