

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
Joint Ordinance and Environmental Committees
Town Hall Council Chambers
October 19, 2015, Monday

Ordinance Committee

Present: Kenneth DiFazio, Chairman
Michael Smart, Vice Chairman
Jane Hackett, Councilor
Arthur Mathews, Councilor
Patrick O'Connor, Councilor

Environmental Committee

Present: Brian McDonald, Chairperson
Robert Conlon, Vice Chair
Jane Hackett, Councilor
Kenneth DiFazio, Councilor
Thomas J. Lacey, Councilor

Also Present: Carolyn Murray, Town Solicitor
James Clarke, Director of Planning
Jeff Richards, Director, Building Department
Walter Flynn, Chair, Planning Department
Eric Schneider, Principal Planner

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chairman Keneth DiFazio called the Ordinance Committee meeting to order at 7:15 PM.
Chairman McDonald called the Environmental Committee meeting to order at 7:15 PM

Ordinance and Environmental Committee

15 106-Amendment to the Zoning Ordinance Solar Photovoltaic Installation

Chairman DiFazio reported that members received the letter from the Weymouth Planning Board dated October 15, 2015 with it's final recommendation of a vote of 4/0 recommending favorable action.

On behalf of the Ordinance Committee, a motion was made by Councilor Mathews to forward measure 15 106 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action, as amended, and was seconded by Councilor O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

On behalf of the Environmental Committee, a motion was made by Councilor Lacey to forward measure 15 106 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action, as amended, and was seconded by Councilor Hackett. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

15 107-Building Construction-Adoption of Massachusetts “Stretch Energy Code”

Chairman DiFazio reported that the committees had met to deliberate this matter several times.

On behalf of the Ordinance Committee, a motion was made by Councilor O’Connor to forward measure 15 107 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Mathews. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

On behalf of the Environmental Committee, a motion was made by Councilor Hackett to forward measure 15 107 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Mathews. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

At 7:19 PM, there being no further business, a motion was made by Councilor O’Connor to adjourn the Ordinance Committee meeting and was seconded by Mathews. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Environmental Committee

Sustainable Environmental Initiatives at Southfield-Discussion

Chairman McDonald submitted a memo for consideration by the committee for forwarding to the full Town Council. He read it into the record:

“MEMO

To: Weymouth Town Council
From: Brian McDonald

Date: 10/19/15

Southfield Environmental Sustainability Initiative

- *Making sustainability a part of Southfield’s future*
- *Re-use of gray water and run-off water for irrigation purposes*
- *Passive solar heat integral to commercial and residential building where practical*
- *Solar panels on commercial building rooftops where practical*
- *Large scale solar panel array on undevelopable land where practical (contaminated land)*
- *Rooftop gardens on buildings that will house restaurants - where practical, Farm to Table movement*
- *Establishing a small scale Farm:*
 - *Highlighting the land use of the past - locally grown movement of today*
 - *Supplementing the Farmers Market*
 - *Farm to Table partnership with on-site restaurants*
 - *Collaboration with High School Culinary Arts Program/ Farm to Table*
 - *Possibility of farm animals (small scale)*
 - *Chickens - farm fresh eggs*
 - *Sheep – “Urban Mowers” - environmentally driven method used to control invasive and unwanted vegetative growth, weeds etc.,*

which minimizes toxic herbicide use - controls unwanted vegetative growth in tough to reach places”

Kyle Corkum was invited to the table who reported they have begun the lead certification process for compliance and the objective is to become a national model. He thanked Chairman McDonald for making him aware of these initiatives as they would have missed a lot of opportunities. He reported LStar is enthusiastically in support of these initiatives.

Councilor Lacey suggested that he support conceptually but asked if the matter was on a referral to committee by the Council. Chairman McDonald reported that this is the first presentation and it has not gone before the Council yet. He added it as an agenda item and it is also on the Council’s agenda. Councilor Lacey asked if the intent is to ask the Council to produce a statement supporting all of these initiatives? Chairman McDonald responded that it is not a mandate, but a support of the possibility of sustainable concepts. Councilor Lacey responded that he didn’t understand the addition of chicken farms to green initiatives. Chairman McDonald responded that none of it is a mandate, but a theoretical, conceptual idea.

Councilor Hackett asked if endorsing on a small scale is contradictory to existing health regulations? Chairman McDonald responded that he should have referred to the possibility of this. Councilor Hackett asked if they are being asked to send this to the full Council or if they are supposed to act on it at the committee level. Chairman McDonald responded that he was looking for endorsement of the concept from the committee. Councilor DiFazio noted that the full Town Council knows nothing of it or received information and he recommended the Chairman draft a memo of explanation to the Council.

A motion was made by Councilor DiFazio to keep the matter in committee for further discussion and was seconded by Vice Chairman Conlon. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:36 PM, there being no further business, a motion was made by Vice Chairman Councilor Hackett for the Environmental Committee to adjourn and was seconded by Councilor Lacey. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary

Approved by Ordinance Chair-Kenneth DiFazio

Approved by Environmental Committee Chair-Brian McDonald

Voted unanimously on 21 December 2015