

PRELIMINARY MINUTES OF PLANNING MEETING APRIL 8, 2013 PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

Note: This draft, prepared to comply with Section 1-225 of the General Connecticut Statutes, is an approximate record of matters discussed and actions taken by the Commission at the meeting, but has not yet been reviewed by the commission for accuracy or completeness and is therefore subject to change or correction. APPROVED FINAL MINUTES will be filed in due course to replace this draft.

Chairman, Robert Maquat, called the meeting to order at 7:15pm

Regular Members present: Robert Maquat, Steve Carlson, Robert DeVellis & Wallace Williams

Regular Members absent: Milan Spisek

Alternate Members present: Raymond Martin and Ross Ogden

Town Officials present: John Hayes, Land Use Director and other Town Officials who had been invited to the meeting: Fire Chief, Steve Waugh, Police Chief James Candee, and Chairman of Board of Education, Adam Dunsby.

1.) Wireless Telecommunication Facilities Study

Representatives of several agencies and organizations potentially concerned with wireless coverage in Easton were invited to attend the meeting to provide oral or written comment. A preliminary report and recommendations by the Wireless Telecommunication Subcommittee and John Hayes was presented by the Chairman. The following Town Officials gave oral comments regarding the necessity of providing improved wireless coverage and emergency communication in areas such as schools, playfields, parks, public buildings and highways: Fire Chief, Steve Waugh, Police Chief James Candee, and Chairman of Board of Education, Adam Dunsby. Chairman Robert Maquat noted written comments from the Director of Parks and Recreation Commission, Gary Simone, in his memo dated April 5, 2013; E-mail dated April 8, 2013 from Brian Roach, Supervisor, Environmental Protection, Aquarion Water Company and e-mail dated April 8, 2013 from Bernard Josefsberg, Superintendant, Schools Administration. One member of the public spoke, Gowan Dacey, regarding wireless coverage.

A report will be drafted for ultimate submission to the Board of Selectmen.

2.) Agriculture in Easton

Chairman Robert Maquat, of the Agricultural Subcommittee, gave a report about additional information he had recently received and researched regarding agriculture in other towns in the State of Connecticut. He noted that conservation of agriculture and local farmland is one of the major recommendations of the Town Plan of Conservation and Development, adopted in 2007.

Jean Stetz-Puchalski, Chair of the Easton Agricultural Commission, was present and gave the Commission an update of how the Ag Commission can help and work with Planning and Zoning in planning for agriculture in Easton. She submitted a memo dated March 27, 2013 which gave the Commission a couple of websites to look at for additional information.

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2.) Agriculture in Easton (continued)

Jean Stetz-Puchalski also gave the Commission a copy of a document entitled Planning For Agriculture – A Guide For Connecticut Municipalities, 2012 edition, A Publication of American Farmland Trust and Connecticut Conference of Municipalities.

Timothy Brady of 53 Center Road spoke about his farm and requested that the Commission not only look at planning for large farms but also keep in mind the small farms.

The Subcommittee on Agriculture will continue to update the Commission.

At approximately 9:00pm motion was made by Steve Carlson, seconded by Wallace Williams, to adjourn the meeting. The vote to adjourn was unanimous, none opposed

Margaret Anania, Respriding Secretary

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