**Town of Essex Planning Board Meeting Minutes –March 18, 2020**

Pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c. 30A, 18 and the Governor’s March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of this town’s Planning Board was conducted via remote participation.

The Meeting was held at the Essex Town Hall 2nd Floor Auditorium, 30 Martin Street, Essex, MA 01929. At 7:30 PM Vice-Chair Wes Burnham, opened the Conference call.

This was a joint meeting of the Planning Board and Board of Selectmen.

**Board Members Present** **at the** **Essex Town Hall 2nd Floor Meeting Room:** Westley Burnham, Michael McConnell

**Board Members participating remotely:** Chair Kim Drake, Matt Greco, William French

**Board Members Absent:** S. Sturgis (Skip) Crocker, Dexter Doane

**Selectmen Present** **at the** **Essex Town Hall 2nd Floor Meeting Room:** Ruth Pereen, Andrew Spinney

**Selectmen participating remotely:** Peter Phippin

**Members of the Public also participated remotely**

**Administrative Assistant**: Mary Heeney

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Chair Kim Drake.

**Building Inspector’s Report:**

The Building Inspector did not have any new Building Permit Applications which required review by the Planning Board.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

The Public Hearing relative to proposed mixed-use zoning bylaw district in downtown Essex to be considered at the Annual Town Meeting.

Wes Burnham made a motion to open the Public Hearing.

Michael McConnell seconded the motion.

The Public Hearing was opened at 7:45 PM.

Kim Drake questioned the Board Members as to whether the Public Hearing should be discussed at the meeting or continued.

Wes Burnham made a motion to continue the Public Hearing to 4/15/2020.

Michael McConnell seconded the motion.

Kim Drake asked each member for their vote, which was cast as follows:

Kim Drake Approve

Bill French: Approve

Matt Greco: Approve

Michael McConnell: Approve

Wes Burnham Approve

S. Sturgis Crocker Absent

Dexter Doane Absent

Kim Drake declared that the Public Hearing relative to proposed mixed-use zoning bylaw district in downtown Essex be continued to 4/15/2020.

**This was a co-meeting of the Selectmen and Planning Board.**

The Selectmen meeting was called to order at 8:00PM by Andrew Spinney.

Members in attendance:

Andrew Spinney

Ruth Pereen

Peter Phippen – Remotely

Discussion by the Selectmen and several members of the public, who joined in on the conference call, relative to possible Town Meeting warrant articles on Marijuana Establishments.

Ruth Pereen made a motion to adjourn the Selectmen meeting at 8:45 PM.

The meeting of the Planning Board continued.

**Meeting Minutes**

The Board reviewed the Meeting Minutes of 3/4/2020

Michael McConnell made a motion to approve the minutes of 3/4/2020

William French seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Adjourn**

Michael McConnell made a motion to adjourn the meeting**.**

Wes Burnham seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved by the Board Members.

The chair declared the Meeting to be adjourned at 9:15 PM.

The next Meeting of the Town of Essex Planning Board will be held on April 1,2020 at the Essex Town Hall, 2nd Floor Stage Conference Room, 30 Martin St, Essex and will commence at 7:30 PM.