



Planning Board – Town of Spencer

Minutes

Planning Board Special Meeting

April 18, 2023, at 6:30 pm

REMOTE & IN-PERSON

McCourt Social Hall, 157 Main Street Spencer, MA 01562
Memorial Town Hall

Planning Board Members Present: Chair Robert Ceppi (in-person), Vice Chair Shirley Shiver (in-person), Charlie Bellemer (in-person), and Vaughn Slack (in-person)

Planning Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present in-person: Lauren Vivier, Town Planner/ Conservation Agent (in-person)

Staff Absent: Monica Santerre-Gervais, ODIS Senior Clerk

1. The Chair opened the meeting at 6:35pm

2. Public Hearing: Zoning Bylaw Section 3.4.2. Floodplain District, as required by FEMA, for the updates to the Worcester County Flood Insurance Rate Map and Worcester County Flood Insurance Study report.

Ms. Vivier said the purpose of the amendment is to get the Town of Spencer on the same page as with the State model for the FEMA Flood bylaw and adopt the updated maps, which are just for the Quinebaug watershed. The proposed change will not impact any new areas in the town. Mr. Bellemer asked how the changes affect the folks that don't live in the Quinebaug Watershed.

Nadia Madden, Department of Conservation & Recreation (DCR), was present remotely for the meeting. Ms. Madden was responsible for drafting the revisions to the Town of Spencer Bylaw to make it fit with the State's model. Ms. Madden stated the regulations are updating the floodplain ordinances, so the Town of Spencer is in line with Federal Regulations. Ms. Madden said the changes will affect new development in the floodplain area. Ms. Madden presented the current floodplain map and then the updated map. Also, Ms. Madden showed where the floodplain would increase and areas it would decrease.

The Chair opened the hearing up to the public.

MOTION: Ms. Shiver motioned to close the public hearing for the Floodplain District Bylaw amendments

SECOND: Mr. Bellemer

DISCUSSION: None

ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Ceppi, Ms. Shiver, Mr. Slack and Mr. Bellemer all voted aye, (vote 4-0) motion carried.

MOTION: Mr. Bellemer motioned to accept the bylaw changes for the Floodplain District amendments

SECOND: Ms. Shiver

DISCUSSION: Once updated GIS Mapping update is completed the public will be able to see if there parcel is in a Floodplain area

ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Ceppi, Ms. Shiver, Mr. Slack and Mr. Bellemer all voted aye, (vote 4-0) motion carried.

3. New Business/Adjournment

Ms. Vivier presented a flyer for the FEMA Flood Map Update Open House, and it is open to the community to answer questions.

MOTION: Ms. Shiver motioned to adjourn the meeting 6:52pm

SECOND: Mr. Slack

DISCUSSION: None

ROLL CALL VOTE: Mr. Ceppi, Ms. Shiver, Mr. Slack and Mr. Bellemer all voted aye, (vote 4-0) motion carried.

Submitted by Monica Santerre-Gervais, ODIS Senior Clerk

Approved by the Planning Board on: 5/02/2023

List of Documents used on April 18, 2023/ Special Meeting

Items sent to Planning Board prior to Meeting by email:

- Final Agenda
- Memo from Town Planner
- Updated FEMA Floodplain Bylaw Amendments

Items submitted/ brought to the Meeting:

- Flyer regarding the FEMA Flood Map Update Open House