Regular Meeting of the Barre City Planning Commission Meeting Minutes for April 25, 2019 at 6:30 P.M.

A regular meeting of the Barre City Planning Commission was called to order by Commission Chair Jackie Calder at 6:30 pm at City Hall. In attendance were Commissioners Michael Hellein, David Sichel. Jim Hart and Rachel Rudi. Also in attendance was Planning Director Janet Shatney. Chair Calder determined that there was a quorum was present.

Absent: Rick Badem.

Adjustments to the Agenda: None.

Visitors and Communications for anything not on the agenda: None.

Old Business: The April 11, 2019 minutes were approved by a motion by Commissioner Rudi, seconded by Commissioner Hellein. Motion carried.

Unified Development Ordinance (UDO): Jon and Rusty Valsangiacomo came to the meeting in follow-up to their letter regarding their property between Rte. 62 and Prospect Street. As stated, they were unaware of the changes to the term Conservation under the proposed ordinance, removing the ability to construct residential dwellings. It is their intent to keep the land open and usable for their family and friends, and would also at some point like to build a home on a portion of the land. They stated that years ago they'd talked with the Land Trust, but that didn't pan out.

Commissioner Hellein had some trepidation about keeping it open, but very glad they came to the Commission to talk. He asked if they would consider any portion of it in Conservation, and was answered by no, at this point, the Valsangiacomo's would prefer it to be R-4, as was talked about at the Council special meeting held on April 17, 2019, and outwardly agreed upon by Councilors present. Motion made by Commissioner Hellein and seconded by Commissioner Sichel to convert the Valsangiacomo lands from Conservation to the R-4 zoning district as proposed, motion carried unanimously.

The Commission then reviewed the comments made by Barre Area Development Corp. Joel Schwartz in a letter dated April 16, 2019. These comments were converted to the comment table, and were reviewed by Council at the Special Meeting held on April 17, 2019.

During that meeting, the Council went line by line of each of the comments. With a summary provided by the Mayor to staff, the COmmission reviewed each comment and didn't make any changes to those that the Council agreed that the Ordinance would stay like it is. There were only a few that further investigation is needed, and will be considered at the May 9, 2019 meeting.

Mr. Ben Bosher's letter was also discussed. The Council agreed to leave the zoning districts as proposed alone, and not make any of the changes that were suggested in the letter. The Commission reviewed the Council's determination and agreed that no further buffer districts or changes are needed in the Circle Street neighborhood.

As affirmed by Council on the night of April 17, 2019, the Commission will receive written concerns and comments prior to the May 9, 2019 meeting. At which time, the Commission will review all comments between the May 9 and the May 23 meetings, where they will present back to Council the remaining changes as proposed so that Council can re-warn another first hearing.

New Business: Chair Calder stated she would not be present at the May 9, 2019 meeting.

Adjourn: The Planning Commission meeting adjourned at 8:26 pm on a motion from Commissioner Hart, seconded by Commissioner Sichel. Motion carried.

There is no audio recording of this meeting.

Respectfully Submitted, Janet Shatney, Planning Director