

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Stephanie O’Keeffe, Alisa Brewer, Aaron Hayden, James Wald and Diana Stein.

**Absent:** None

**Staff:** Town Manager John Musante

**Other:** Amherst Firefighter and President of Local 1764 Steve Gaughn, Chief Tim Nelson, Planning Director Jonathan Tucker, Barbara Ford and Hilda Greenbaum

Meeting called to order by Ms. O’Keeffe at 6:30 p.m.

**ARTICLE 17 – VILLAGE CENTER ZONING**

Jonathan Tucker noted that it was the consensus of the Planning Board that the proposed language clarifies the definitions and reduces confusion regarding interpretation.

VOTED unanimously to support Barbara Ford’s Motions to Divide and Amend November 7, 2011 Special Town Meeting Article 17 Village Center Zoning, as presented in her motion language as follows: “I move to divide Article 17, so as to consider the definitions of Town House (proposed Section 12.87) and Apartment (proposed Section 12.04) separately from the rest of the article.” And “I move to amend the proposed definition of Apartments so as to remove the phrase, “where the majority of such units are designated and used for residential occupancy” from the first sentence.” The latter reading: *Proposed 12.04 - Apartment: A residential use consisting of one or more buildings, each building containing no fewer than three (3) nor more than twenty-four (24) dwelling units, ~~where the majority of such units are designed and used by for residential occupancy.~~ Apartment dwelling units may share internal accessways and entrances and need not have separate exterior entrances on the ground level.*

Jonathan Tucker noted that the Planning Board had voted 7-0 moving in terms of the article, with the change in permit requirements for Town Houses in the N AVC and AC districts from SPR to SP to reduce scope.

Ms. Stein stated for the record that her position was to oppose Article 17, but if it were to pass, she preferred it be with the SP requirement for Town Houses.

VOTED unanimously to support the Planning Board's moving in terms of the article to include the change in permit requirements for Town Houses in the NAVC and AC districts f rom SPR to SP.

**TAXI DRIVER LICENSE**

VOTED unanimously to approve the new Taxi Driver/Chauffer License for Jasmine Powers of Springfield, MA on behalf of Ziqui Taxi Company.

**IMPORTANT UPDATES**

Town Manager Musante announced that an agreement had been reached with the Firefighters’ Union, Local 1764, covering the period of July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2013. Mr. Musante reported on salary increases, new 24-hour shift schedule and the change in shift start time from 8 a.m. to 7 a.m. Mr. Musante praised the collaboration with Union President Steve Gaughn and the firefighters he represents, and thanked the Town labor negotiator Jim Connors, Chief Nelson and everyone else involved in the contract negotiations. Mr. Gaughn and Chief Nelson both praised the agreement and the process as well. Select Board members expressed appreciation for the agreement and the willingness of the firefighters to be bold and creative in re-thinking the shift model for better utilization of resources.

Meeting adjourned at 6:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra A. Roussel, Assistant to the Town Manager

**List of Documents Presented at the Meeting – Also Available in the Online Packet for the Meeting Date**

11-16-2011 Draft Motions

Taxi Driver Application – Powers, Jasmine

Press Release Amherst Firefighters Reach Agreement on Contract

Barbara Ford Proposed language for Article 17 division and Change in Definitions