

Dalton Planning Board

Minutes of 12/16/20

Present: Carl Lindquist, Terri Parks, Jo Beth Dudley, Steve Ordinetz

On Webex: Gal Potashnick, Erik Nilsen

Meeting Called to Order 7:08pm

Reviewed/approved both 11/18 and 12/2 Meeting Minutes

Comments/Feedback from Zoning Hearing of 12/9:

- Approximately 40 people participated in the Zoom meeting.
- Master Plan is a foundation piece for Zoning. Some residents felt that the current Master Plan needs to be updated first in order to accurately reflect the wishes of the town.
- ETZ can be extended for one more year. This could be put on the ballot at Town Meeting 2021 in order to allow more time for Master Plan revision and subsequent Zoning updates.
- Some comments that Zoning does not adequately address business development and the tax base of Dalton
- Comments that Ag/Forestry are insufficiently represented in the proposed Zoning ordinance
- Comment that what is allowable/what is not is insufficiently defined (i.e. Alstead as an example) in proposed zoning ordinance
- Discussion about a defined landfill district

Terri commented that in her past experience that Master Plan update would require more than 1yr.

Littleton has 15 pages of Economic Development text in their zoning ordinance. Economic Development is a significant undertaking, beyond the ability of the Dalton Planning Board to execute.

How to increase outreach? No businesses contacted the Planning Board about zoning so we had no feedback to work with. 40 people joined the Zoom meeting but many other town residents did not participate and have not submitted feedback or suggestions.

Given that there is only 1 more year until the ETZ expires it would be very aggressive to think the master plan could be updated and zoning ordinance then updated accordingly by December 2021.

Discussion at this meeting and comments from the hearing showed that the proposed zoning ordinance needs significant revision and could not be ready in time to have a second hearing prior to town meeting.

Decision: The Dalton Planning Board will request the Dalton Select Board to put a 1yr extension of the ETZ as a warrant article at 2021 Town Meeting. Carl to email the select board.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting 1/6/21 7pm