

KITTERY TOWN COUNCIL Approved Minutes

July 18, 2022, 6:00PM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

1. Call to Order

Chair Spiller called the meeting to order at 6:00PM.

2. Introductory

3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Roll Call Councilors present: Chair Judith Spiller, Vice Chair George Dow Councilor Jeffrey Pelletier, Councilor Mary Stevens and Councilor Colin McGuire on ZOOM. Councilors absent: Councilor Cameron Hamm, and Councilor Cyrus Clark.

5. Agenda Amendment and Adoption

Under 12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS item a. a. (070322-1) The Kittery Town Council moves to vote on Title 16 – Affordable Housing BL-BL1 amendments. Postponed until the August 15, 2022 Town Council meeting.

6. Town Manager's Report

The Town Manager reported: Whipple Sidewalk Project, Senior Tax Circuit Breaker, Paving Projects this Season, and FY2022 Financial Report.

Upcoming Dates:

Kittery 375th Arts Festival is every Thursday through August 18, 2022 for more information is at www.kittery375th.com.

ADU Grant applications due on August 1, 2022 at the Planning Department.

National Night Out is on August 2, 2022 at 5:30PM, located at the Kittery Community Center.

Council and School Committee Nomination papers are due on August 8, 2022 at the Town Hall.

7. Acceptance of Previous Minutes

- June 13, 2022 – Regular Meeting

The Town Council approved the June 13, 2022 meeting minutes as written.

8. Interviews for the Board of Appeals and Planning Board - None

9. All items involving the town attorney, town engineers, town employees or other town consultants or requested officials - None

10. PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

11. DISCUSSION

a. Discussion by members of the public (three minutes per person)

Thomas Emerson, 10 Ox Point Drive, Kittery, asked the Town Council about the repaving of the Mixed-Use zone north of the Outlet Mall.

Jeff Clifford, 27 Miller Road, Kittery, spoke about the BL and BL1 amendments.

Ron Ledgett, 45 Crockett Neck Road, Kittery Point, spoke about the issues with density in the BL and BL1 amendments.

Deb Driscoll, 9 Pepperrell Terrace, Kittery Point, spoke about several reasons she believes the Council should vote no on the BL and BL1 amendments. Ms. Driscoll mentioned the letter that was sent by Mr. Ledgett and Ms. Kalmar that was not given to the Council.

William Pierce, 77 Crockett Neck Road, Kittery Point, stated the laws for building an accessory dwelling unit are so complicated that's it is impossible.

Shaye Robbins, 24 Heron Point Lane Kittery Point, thanked the Town Council, Planner and Manager as well as the members of the Planning Board who were in attendance at Wednesday July 13 special meeting regarding the zoning concerns, and noted the well-run meeting and respectful discussion the Council encouraged.

Karen Kalmar, 191 Brave Boat Harbor Road, Kittery Point, apologized again for not realizing that during the Planning Board's zoning review process, that the current Business Local zoning amendments, may impact local businesses negatively and limit the chance of affordable housing actually being built in these zones.

James Knowles, 2 Estuary Drive, Kittery wanted to thank the Town Council for listening to the residents of Kittery and immediately repealing the MUN zone.

Danielle Hoffman, 8 Chickadee Lane, Kittery invited the Council to participate in or listen to a Podcast Listening Party, an innovative local opportunity for learning, regarding important and difficult community issues. The live event will be in Eliot on July 15 at 7pm, and the recording will be available on July 18th.

b. Response to public comment directed to a particular Councilor

c. Chairperson's response to public comments

Chair Spiller responded to Mr. Pierce and suggested working with the Code Enforcement office in regards to an AVU.

Chair Spiller responded to Ms. Driscoll by stating the letter from Mr. Ledgett and Ms. Kalmar was shared with the Council.

Chair Spiller responded to Mr. Ledgett and said we are in a policy disagreement we need to figure out how to resolve that. Chair Spiller stated she relies on the Town Manager and the Planning Board.

Chair Spiller responded to Mr. Clifford and stated the Housing Committee met and came up with several recommendations which are more protective of the commercial part of the zones.

The Town Manager responded to Mr. Emerson and stated in terms of the DOT road visioning or road improvements, that Adam Causey just received a grant for a PPI program to do Route 1.

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. (070322-1) The Kittery Town Council moves to vote on Title 16 – Affordable Housing BL-BL1 amendments.

Postponed until the August 15, 2022 Town Council meeting.

Moved by Chair Spiller, seconded by Vice Chair Dow.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

13. NEW BUSINESS

a. Donations/gifts received for Council disposition - None

b. (070322-2) The Kittery Town Council moves to schedule a public hearing on August 15, 2022 to approve the Year End Transfers.

Moved by Councilor Stevens, seconded by Vice Chair Dow.

All were in favor.

c. (070322-3) The Kittery Town Council moves to vote for Kendra Amaral to serve on the Maine Municipal Association's Legislative Policy Committee.

Moved by Vice Chair Dow, seconded by Councilor Stevens.

Motion Carried 5-0-0

d. (070322-4) The Kittery Town Council moves to appoint Adam Causey, Director of Planning and Development as Acting Town Manager from July 25, 2022 through July 28, 2022 while Town Manager is on vacation.

Moved by Vice Dow, seconded by Councilor Stevens

Motion Carried 5-0-0

14. COUNCILOR ISSUES OR COMMENTS

Councilor Stevens said that she is impressed at the level of knowledge and dedication of the community members, and thanked everyone who has been weighing in on the BL-BL1 Ordinance, and the Council really appreciates everything our boards and committees do.

Chair Spiller spoke about being contacted by several residents about an event that was at the Kittery Trading Post on Saturday. The National Socialist Club were out in their masks with signs which said Keep New England White. Chair Spiller expressed this was offensive and inappropriate.

Chair Spiller mentioned the Workshop with the Planning Board on Wednesday, and how some people were speaking about renters. Chair Spiller said that at some point a lot of people have had to rent and were very responsible.

Chair Spiller also wanted to encourage everyone to attend the concerts at John Paul Jones Park. Chair Spiller mentioned not going near the Seals on the beaches.

15. COMMITTEE AND OTHER REPORTS - None

a. Communications from the Chairperson -None

b. Committee Reports -None

16. EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

17. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chair Dow moved to adjourn at 6:42PM, seconded by Councilor Stevens.

All were in favor.

Submitted by Kim Tackett

Disclaimer: The following minutes constitute the author's understanding of the meeting.

Whilst every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of the information, the Minutes are not intended as a verbatim transcript of comments at the meeting, but a summary of the discussion and actions that took place. For complete details, please refer to the video of the meeting on the Town of Kittery website.