

APPROVED

TOWN OF LOUDON
LOUDON, NEW HAMPSHIRE
PLANNING BOARD MINUTES
NOVEMBER 20, 2014

ZONING WORKSHOP & MEETING WITH CNHRPC

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairman Tom Dow.

Attendance:

Planning Board Chairman Tom Dow, Vice Chairman Stan Prescott, Tom Moore, Henry Huntington, George Saunderson, Bob Cole, and Ex-Officio Dustin Bowles

Zoning Board members: Dave Powelson, Roy Merrill, Ned Lizotte, Earl Tuson and Alternate Charlie Aznive

John Reese represented the Fire Department.

The group first reviewed Attorney Mayer's response to questions about an upcoming hearing on storage tanks and fuel distribution. There was discussion about various options.

Proposed zoning amendment items submitted by the Fire Department

- 1. All new mercantile, industrial, and business occupancies, 5000 square feet or larger, shall have a full NFPA 72 fire alarm system professionally installed and monitored by a 24 hour monitoring company. (adopted year of standard at time of installation)** John Reese explained that they are looking for early notification to reduce loss. He said this would bring the town to the standards of surrounding communities. Examples were given of early notification as compared to the possibility of an undetected fire until it was too late for the department to be able to enter a building or reduce the loss. Several members voiced concerns about the burden of the expense of such systems on the business owner and wondered if it the requirement might be far-reaching for town government. John was asked to get the costs for systems in various size buildings.
- 2. All new mercantile, industrial, business, and place of assembly occupancies shall have a Knox Box brand key box installed on the building in a Loudon Fire Department approved location. The Knox Box shall be installed prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy.** John Reese explained how the Knox Box works, allowing the department access to the building rather than having to break down a door. He said the cost of the Knox Box is far less than replacing a plate glass door. Those present agreed that this would be a reasonable requirement.
- 3. Any membrane structures, tents, or canopies for temporary use, on private or public land, having an area in excess 400 square feet, shall require the**

issuance of a Place of Assembly permit by the Loudon Fire Department.
Exception: Temporary membrane structures, tents, or canopy structures used exclusively for camping. John Reese explained that the Department is required to inspect and issue a Place of Assembly permit for tents used for public functions. He said the Department feels that private functions are no different and all tents should be inspected to ensure that the tent is flameproof and that guest safety is considered during set-up. There is no charge for the inspection that is done prior to the event and permit. John said Code Enforcement is contacted for larger gatherings, and it would seem logical that the Fire Department get a call as well. Several members voiced concerns about the matter, some feeling that the Department was overstepping its bounds when it came to private events.

This portion of the meeting was closed at 6:50 p.m. as there was other business to hear before the start of the regular Planning Board meeting. Another workshop was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. on December 18, 2014.

Master Plan update

Mike Tardiff was present from Central N H Regional Planning Commission. Mike introduced Sam Durfee as their new assistant planner. He said they came as a follow up to the visioning session that was held earlier this year. CNHRPC is planning to reach out to two or three groups in town and would like one or two Board members to participate in those smaller group sessions. Mike said this would probably be done in January and then they will wrap up some chapters. He and Sam will meet with Donna in the near future on the community facilities chapter.

Adjournment:

This portion of the meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Submitted by,

Donna White
Administrative Assistant