Community Preservation Committee Meeting Minutes

Town Hall – November 30, 2020

Sturbridge, MA

At 7:00 pm the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) Chair called the meeting to order. In attendance: Penny Dumas (PD), Ed Goodwin (EG), Kadion Phillips (KP), Jeff Adams (JA), Kelly Emrich (KE), and Barbara Search (BS). Ed Neal (EN) arrived at 7:01.

Guest: Jeff Bridges (JB), Town Administrator; Charlie Blanchard, Historical Commission

This meeting was held remotely pursuant to Governor Baker’s March 12, 2020, Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, and the Governor’s March 15, 2020, order imposing strict limitations of the number of people that may gather in one place. The meeting was held via the GoToMeeting application and available for public access via the Town’s on demand video broadcast, on cable television, or by telephone access during the meeting.

PD read the meeting agenda and introduced those in attendance. Joanne Everson, CPC Clerk, read an introduction to the virtual meeting.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

EG moved the motion to accept the September 14, 2020, minutes as presented; KP seconds. Motion accepted 5-0-2.

Roll call vote:

KP, yes KE, abstained BS, yes EN, abstained EG, yes JA, yes PD, yes

**Sturbridge Community Wide Historic Preservation Plan**

EG moved the motion to support the Community Wide Historic Preservation Plan Proposal for the use of $15,000.00 of historic CPA fund balance to be placed on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant; BS seconds. Motion accepted 7-0-0.

Roll call vote:

KP, yes KE, yes JA, yes BS, yes EN, yes EG, yes PD, yes

CB explained that the Historical Commission has submitted a letter of intent to the Massachusetts Historical Commission in order to apply for survey and planning funds. He added the purpose of the funds is to define the community and to create a comprehensive plan for future development. He said that this is a matching grant with a maximum of $15,000 coming from state funds and $15,000 from the Town. He added that the Historical Commission expects to hear in January if Sturbridge has been chosen to submit a full application. BS stated that it was recommended that the Town come up with a comprehensive plan to determine the historical assets of the Town. CB explained that this project will evaluate the resources of the town and prioritize how to protect these resources. Discussion followed regarding whether this would be a Fiscal Year 2020 or 2021 project; CB explained the plan is to hire a consultant in June 2021 with a completion date for the project of approximately one year.

**Other Topics**

JB stated that there will not be a Special Town Meeting this winter due to Covid-19 and the lack of a meeting place. He said he will be submitting a request for CPC funds for the design of and permitting for the Streeter Beach project. He added the Town is still trying to negotiate a mutually agreeable solution with Mrs. Belanger regarding her property.

Next meeting will be announced at a later date. EG leaves meeting at 7:32.

EN moved the motion to adjourn; KP seconds. Motion accepted 6-0-0.

Roll call vote:

EN, yes KE, yes BS, yes JA, yes KP, yes PD, yes

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.

/jme