

## **MERRIMAC PLANNING BOARD**

September 19, 2023

### **MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Sandra Venner called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM

**ATTENDANCE:** Chair Sandra Venner, Vice Chair Karol Flannery, Member Thomas Abisalih, Member David Cressman,

**ABSENT:** Member Dennis Brodie

Motion to approve minutes of August 15, 1<sup>st</sup> David Cressman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thomas Abisalih, All in favor 3-0. 1 abstained.

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Stormwater Management for 1 High Street – The Board discussed that although the site has been determined stable, the owner has not made any movement toward applying for the project that will improve the site. A motion by David Cressman to send responsible party a request to come to the Planning Board's next meeting to provide an update. 2<sup>nd</sup> Thomas Abisalih, approved 4-0.

#### **PROJECT UPDATES:**

1. **118 East Main Street/Merrimac Crossing** – no new updates.
2. **Abbey Road** – Building Inspector Bob Sinibaldi stated the project is progressing. Updates from the developer are needed in order to confirm land boundaries and estimate completion. Thomas Abisalih put forth a motion for the Town Planner to meet with the developer to receive updates, 2<sup>nd</sup> David Cressman, approved 4-0.
3. **Regency Mixed Use** – no new updates.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **51 East Main Street** – The public hearing for the project was not able to be opened as there was not a quorum of the members present to hear the application. Sandra Venner discussed with the applicant that since their initial application approximately a year ago, one of the Board members has become an alternate because of schedule changes conflicting with meetings and a new member was appointed. Because of this change since the initial application, the new member is not legally permitted to vote on this project thus making the ability of the Board to have a quorum quite difficult. The applicant suggested that they could withdraw this application and refile so that the new member would then be eligible to vote and thus making it more feasible for a quorum of the Board to be present in future meetings. The Board and the applicant discussed that refiling may be a good option to ensure that the project review can move forward. A motion to continue by Karol Flannery, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Thomas Abisalih. Approved 3-0. 1 abstained.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** No new correspondence

#### **WARRANTS/FINANCIAL:**

1. 2 warrants from Mead Talerman & Costa LLC – Motion to accept by David Cressman, 2<sup>nd</sup> Thomas Abisalih, approved 4-0.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS, NOTICES & ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Surrounding Towns:

1. Town of West Newbury – Amendments to Stormwater Management Regulations
2. City of Haverhill – Zoning Amendment for Old Ferry Road parcel
3. City of Haverhill – Request for multi-family at 85 Water Street

**CONFIRM NEXT MEETING:** The next meeting of the Planning Board will be on October 17, 2023.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business to come before the Board, and upon a motion by Mr. Thomas Abisalih, second by Mr. Cressman, it was voted to adjourn at 8:16 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shayla Wells