



# **TOWN OF ACUSHNET**

## **MASSACHUSETTS**

**OFFICE OF THE PLANNING BOARD**  
**122 MAIN ST.**

**ACUSHNET, MA 02743**

**<http://www.acushnet.ma.us>**

**FAX: (508)998-0203**

Planning Commission

Regular Meeting

and

Two Zoning Public Hearings

1) Business Village Sewer Design Standards Amendment  
and

2) Recreational Marijuana Moratorium

March 23, 2017

Open: 6:30 pm

Adjourn: No time noted

Present: Marc Cenerizio, Chairman  
Mark DeSilva, Sr.  
Phil Mello  
Bryan Deschamps

Henry Young, Planner

Absent: Rick Ellis

Issue: Motion is made to open meeting.

So moved: P. Mello

Second: M. DeSilva, Sr.

Vote was 4 for, 1 absent.

Issue: Announcement that the meeting is being audio and video taped, as per  
Massachusetts General Law requirements.

Issue: After reading, motion is made to accept the minutes of February 23, 2017.

So moved: M. DeSilva, Sr.

Second: P. Mello

Vote was 4 for, 1 absent.

All minutes are on file in the Planning office, 130 Main Street, Parting Ways, 2nd  
floor.

Issue: Vouchers were reviewed and signed. All financial information for the Planning  
Commission is on file in the Planning office, and at Town Hall in the Financial  
Department.

Issue: Mail was reviewed and is attached to these minutes.

Issue: Planner Update: Henry Young

- we applied for and received a \$15,000 grant for Master Plan research
- Henry is working with Town Administrator Noble on another grant (Community Compact Grant) to do IT upgrades in the Town Hall complex; fiberoptics are in dire need of replacement

Issue: Public Hearing - Zoning ByLaw Addition Proposal - Zoning Article VIII - 3.3.2 E - Business Village Water and Sewer Design Standards Clarification

Motion is made to open the public hearing at 6:45 pm.

So moved: B. Deschamps

Second: M. DeSilva, Sr.

Vote was 4 for, 1 absent.

This issue was advertised in The Advocate on March 9 and March 16, 2017. The ad was read into the record.

Henry Young spoke on the matter. Working with the DPW and The Building Inspector, they realized that some lots on South Main Street in the BV District have no access to sewer, and therefore came up with language (subsection 7 and 8) to clarify this issue. They had spent a couple of months converting business to residential for some very small lots.

After discussion, a motion was made to approve the language for this Bylaw change, which is attached to these minutes, and which can also be found at the Town Clerk's office. It will appear on the warrant for the Town Meeting on June 5, 2017.

So moved: P. Mello

Second: B. Deschamps

Vote was 4 for, 1 absent.

A motion is made to close the public hearing.

So moved: M. DeSilva, Sr.

Second: P. Mello

Vote was 4 for, 1 absent.

Issue: Public Hearing - Recreational Marijuana Moratorium - Zoning Article VIII - 3.3.9

Motion is made to open public hearing at 7:00 pm.

So moved: B. Deschamps

Second: M. DeSilva, Sr.

Vote was 4 for, 1 absent.

Mr. Cenerizio read the legal ad which was published in The Advocate on March 9 and March 16, 2017.

Mr. Young spoke on the issue. He explained that this is the same process we went through with medical marijuana. Although the state voted for the use of recreational marijuana, guidance has not come down on implementation of the process at the local or state level. In the interim, we establish a moratorium and draft bylaws to regulate. It was voted in on November 8, 2016, and went into effect on December 15th, and amended December 30th. It now requires input from the Cannabis Control Commission. The Town needs time to study and needs definitions clarified.

This moratorium on implementation of this law would be in effect through June 30, 2018 or until such time as the regulations governing this issue are in effect, whichever comes first.

After discussion, a motion is made to approve the proposed bylaw and the language for a moratorium on recreational marijuana.

So moved: P. Mello

Second: B. Deschamps

Vote was 4 for, 1 absent.

A motion was made to close the public hearing.

So moved: M. DeSilva, Sr.

Second: P. Mello

Vote was 4 for, 1 absent.

Mr. Young will notify the Board of Selectmen regarding the vote to proceed with the two Bylaw issues. They will both be on the warrant for Town Meeting on June 5, 2017.

Issue: Next meeting will be April 27, 2017 at 6:30 at the Planning Office, 130 Main Street, Parting Ways, 2nd floor.

Issue: Motion is made to close the meeting, no time noted.

So moved: B. Deschamps

Second: M. DeSilva, Sr.

Vote was 4 for, 1 absent.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna M. Ellis