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AMESBURY

CITY HALL
62 Friend Street
Amesbury, MA 01913

City Council Planning and Development Committee Minutes

Wednesday January 22, 2025 at 7:00 PM
City Hall Auditorium- 62 Friend St.

Councilor Haggstrom called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM

Roll Call: All Present

Communication/Updates

Public Comment:

- Crystal Sorgini (82 Prospect St) – Looking for ideas on how to engage as an active citizen member.
- Tracey Chalifour (25 Clarks Rd) – Commenting on 2024-164, Confused as to the schematics that came with the bill and hopes the committee will get some specifics on substantive changes from 2019-042.

Response to Public Comment:

- Councilor Haggstrom encouraged Ms. Sorgini to look at the website for any vacancies that are posted.
- Councilor Mandeville added to Councilor Haggstrom's response, encouraging Sorgini to meet with the Mayor ahead of budget season and noted the upcoming local election in the fall.
- Councilor Hogg added that the Amesbury Energy Committee is reconstituting their bylaws and expanding to 9 members, so there will be openings there in the future.

2024-096 An Ordinance to amend the Amesbury Zoning Ordinance expanding the Renewable Energy Development Overlay District (REDD) – **Mayor Sponsor**

- Councilor Haggstrom pointed out that the Planning Board has not made a recommendation.

Councilor Hogg offered a motion to continue 2024-096 to the next regularly scheduled committee meeting on 2/19. The motion was seconded by Councilor Mandeville and passed unanimously (3-0)

2024-164 An Order to: Vote to Rescind Bill No. 2019-042 and Accept a Portion of Elm Street as a City Public Way- **Mayor Sponsor**

- Joe Buckley (DPW Director) answered questions posed by Ms. Chalifour during public comment. He shared that the state reached out about this issue over a year ago but was delayed due to turnover at DPW.

- Chris Falcos understands that the area was city owned but transferred to the state. Buckley clarified that the state agreed to take over maintenance, state asked to hold onto a little more of Elm Street near Rte. 110, largely a technical change.
- Councilor Mandeville sought clarification over the term “discontinuous gap.” Mr. Falcos confirmed that the term is referring to a bridge over I-495.
- Councilor Haggstrom asked Mr. Buckley if Mass DOT has any plans for this area. Mr. Buckley replied that there are no plans he has heard of, that Mass DOT just wants to close the books on what they are responsible for.

Councilor Mandeville moved to send 2024-164 to the full City Council with a positive recommendation. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg and passed unanimously (3-0)

Councilor Mandeville offered a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:26 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilor Hogg and passed unanimously (3-0).