

Planning Board
Town of Hinsdale, NH
Town Hall
Meeting November 15, 2022

Board Members: Vice-Chair Tom Woodbury, Sandra Golden, James Mitchell, CDC Lynch, Mike Darcy, and Ann Diorio were present. Chair Sean Leary and Selectman Rep. William Hodgman excused. No members of the public were present.

6pm Vice-Chair Woodbury called the meeting to order.

Board Discussion: The Board reviewed zoning pertaining to lighting from Billerica MA. The board discussed issues with the existing Zoning Ordinance pertaining to brightness of lights and signage. They discussed how the downtowns ethics are unique and the Board would very much like to keep the historical nature of that. They discussed due to the open space requirements in the Business District a business cannot set their lighting back away from the road like in the Roadside Commercial District. LED lighting is becoming more prevalent and the Zoning Ordinance should be updated to address it. The Board discussed adding lights and illuminations to the sign ordinance portion of the Zoning Ordinance.

i. Lights and Illuminations: The light from any sign shall be shaded, or shielded, or directed or shall be maintained at a sufficiently low level of intensity and brightness that is shall not adversely affect neighboring premises, reflect or shine on or into residential lotas or impair the safe vision of operators of vehicles moving on public roads and highways.

No illumination shall be permitted which castes glare beyond the perimeter of the property on which the sign is located.

The Board also discussed adding to the Business District portion of the Zoning Ordinance.

The Business District is intended to provide compact areas within which the commercial and business uses necessary to service the needs of the community may function. "To continue to maintain the aesthetically appealing, harmonious, historical nature of downtown Hinsdale." In addition, provision is made for areas to allow the controlled development of business uses oriented to the road and highway network.

These two proposed Warrant Articles will be discussed further at December's meeting and the first public hearing for the articles needs to be prior to January 12, 2023.

CDC Lynch is contacted the owner of 4 Main Street because the lighting was not on the approved site plan, they need to be addressed by the Board. The sign being lit after 9pm when the store is closed is being addressed by the Building Inspector. A letter has been sent to the owner, pertaining to the sign.

M. Darcy made a motion to approved the minutes dated October 18, 2022. He was seconded by J. Mitchell. The motion passed unanimously.

With there being no further business to come before the meeting, A. Diorio made a motion to adjourn. She was seconded by M. Darcy. The meeting was adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathryn Lynch