TOWN OF HOPKINTON
PLANNING BOARD

Wednesday, April 6, 2016
7:00 P.M.
Hopkinton Town Hall
One Town House Road, Hopkinton, Rhode Island 02833

CALL TO ORDER:
The April 6, 2016 meeting of the Hopkinton Planning Board was called to order at 7:00 P.M. by Vice Chair Amy Williams.

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Amy Williams, Hazel Douthitt, and Frank Sardone were present. Mr. DiOrio was absent.

Also present were: James Lamphere, Town Planner; Kevin McAllister, Town Solicitor; Sean Henry, Planning Board Clerk; and John Pennypacker, Conservation Commission.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
MS. DOUTHITT MOVED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 2nd 2016 MEETING. MR. SARDONE SECONDED THE MOTION.
ALL MEMBERS APPROVE. MOTION PASSES.

NEW BUSINESS:
2016 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Applications – Planning Board determination of proposed activities for consistency with Comprehensive Plan

Town Planner Jim Lamphere provided the Planning Board and those in attendance with a description of the Town’s Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application and the Planning Board’s charge for the program. On an annual basis, the Town collects applications from eligible sub-applicants that are applying for CDBG funds through the Town of Hopkinton. The Planning Board is then required to determine if any of the proposed activities conflict with the contents of the Comprehensive Plan.

No dollar amounts are being dealt with at this meeting, the Planning Board is only required to review the activities proposed by the sub-applicants. Ms. Williams suggested that, for the record, the Planning Board will review the activities one by one and approve applications with one motion. Other board members agreed.

1 – Hope Valley Water Line Infrastructure.
2 – Hope Valley Water Line Meter Replacement.
3 - Hope Valley Water Tank Refurbishing.
Planning Board members agreed that these related projects all supported the Public service and facilities goals in the Comprehensive Plan.

4 – Langworthy Field Improvements.

Planning Board members agreed that this project supported the Town’s Recreation goals within the Comprehensive Plan.

5 – Hope Valley Revitalization Management

Ms. Douthitt identified the revitalization program as advancing the homeless shelters and transitional housing goals within the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Lamphere expounded upon the Hope Valley Revitalization Plan progress since it was created, including Depot Square and a proposed walkway along the river connected to Depot Square. Ms. Capalbo asked if the Community Development Consortium would also be involved with the Hope Valley water line projects. Mr. Lamphere knew that he would be involved, because of the use of CDBG funds, but he did not know to what extent.

6 – Domestic Violence Resource Center of South County

Ms. Williams identified several goals in the Comprehensive Plan that this activity would support, including public service and community development goals.

7 – The Jonnycake Center of Westerly Renovations

Mr. Sardone asked Mr. Lamphere if the sought improvements were being applied for directly by the Jonnycake Center or on behalf of the owner of the building in which they operate. Mr. Lamphere was unsure of the arrangement, but the improvements would be approved by the Town of Westerly via building permits. Ms. Williams identified a Public Services and Facilities Goal for this activity. Ms. Capalbo asked if the renovations to the new classrooms are a result of poor planning when they were built. Mr. Lamphere agreed that it was a valid issue, but the question would be better raised for applicant at the Town Council public hearing. Mr. Sardone commented that the issues may be coming from the Center’s neighbors- a woodworking company and HVAC company- whom they would not have been familiar with when they first arrived.

8 – The Jonnycake Center of Westerly
9 – WARM Shelter Employment Readiness Program
10 – WARM Center Culinary Job Training Program

The Planning Board agreed that these program activities all supported the Town’s Public Service and Facilities and Economic Development goals.
Ms. Williams asked the Town Planner how this activity differed from the Revitalization Plan administration funds. Mr. Lamphere stated that the Revitalization Plan activity was limited to the Hope Valley area and revitalization plan. These funds are used to administer all of the other activities in the 2016 CDBG application. Hopkinton’s CDBG administrator is the Community Development Consortium in East Greenwich, whose principal is Geoffrey Marchant. He added that the CDC distributes funds for most of the towns in Washington County, and the additional steps the Town Council will take with regards to the CDBG program.

12 – Townwide Housing Rehabilitation Program

Mr. Lamphere corrected a part of his memo, indicating that a dollar amount represented awards over a number of years, not just the current fiscal year. Each line item in the CDBG application must be periodically updated, which is why the ongoing Housing Rehabilitation program is being applied for in FY ’16. Mr. Sardone asked if there was a cap for the amount that could be spent on a project. Mr. Lamphere answered that there is no cap, and that worthy projects are awarded funds out of a housing set-aside fund. After further discussion, the Planning Board members agreed that the program supported the goals of the comprehensive plan.

MR. SARDONE MOVES TO CERTIFY THAT NONE OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CDBG APPLICANTS CONFLICT WITH THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF THE TOWN OF HOPKINTON.
MS. DOUTHITT SECONDED THE MOTION
ALL MEMBERS APPROVE. MOTION PASSES.

OLD BUSINESS:
None

SOLICITOR’S REPORT:
None

PLANNER’S REPORT:
None

CORRESPONDENCE AND UPDATES:
None

PUBLIC COMMENT:
None
DATE OF NEXT REGULAR MEETING: May 4, 2016

ADJOURNMENT:

MR. SARDONE MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING
MS. DOUTHITT SECONDED THE MOTION
ALL MEMBERS APPROVE. MOTION Passes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40.

Attest: ____________________________
Sean Henry, Planning Board Clerk

Approved: