

Zoning Ordinance

The Planning Board considered several amendments to the Zoning Ordinance during a number of “workshop” sessions and public hearings. Ultimately, nine amendments were submitted for inclusion on the 2002 Town Warrant. All were approved by the voters.

The Planning Board has already voted to send a number of amendments to the Town Clerk for inclusion on the 2003 Town Warrant and is still considering additional amendments.

Master Plan

The Planning Board is making good progress with the comprehensive update to the Master Plan scheduled for completion early in 2004. A major portion of the monthly workshop sessions have been devoted to review of the first three chapters selected for updating. To date, Steven Heuchert, MRTPI of the Nashua Regional Planning Commission has submitted three drafts of both the Economic Development Chapter and the Population and Housing Chapter as well as the first draft of the Community Facilities Chapter. The Planning Board is hoping to obtain meaningful public input during any of its workshop meetings, public input sessions or public hearings.

Capital Improvements Program

This year the Capital Improvement Program (CIP) was modified to improve its usefulness. The CIP Committee started meeting in June (rather than in August as in previous years) to hear the presentations of this year’s proposals. This allowed the document to be completed much earlier than in previous years, well in advance of the budget process. Most of the department heads also reviewed their proposals with the Selectmen prior to submission to the Committee to confirm their support rather than submitting a wish list for ranking.

Updating Planning Tools

In addition to plan review and amendments to the Zoning Ordinance, the Planning Board worked on revisions to the Subdivision and Site Plan Regulations. Updating these tools is an ongoing process.