

ZONING & PLANNING COMMITTEE UNSCHEDULED ITEMS 01/05/22

January 10, 2022

1 new appt #62-22

- #62-22** **Appointment of Ali Erol to the Economic Development Commission**
HER HONOR THE MAYOR appointing Ali Erol, 204 Dedham Street, Newton, as a member of the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION for a term to expire on December 31, 2023. (60 days: 03/02/22)
- #39-22** **Requesting discussion on state guidance for implementing the Housing Choice Bill**
COUNCILOR CROSSLEY on behalf of the Zoning & Planning Committee requesting discussion on state guidance for implementing the Housing Choice element of the MA Economic Development legislation. (formerly #131-21)
- #42-22** **Citizens petition to amend the village center district**
ATTORNEY PETER HARRINGTON ET AL., submitting a 60-signature citizen to strike Chapter 30, Section 4.1 Business Districts, in its entirety and insert, in place thereof, the following 4.1. Village Center District; 4.1.1. District Intent and 4.1.2. Dimensional Standards.

3 reappointments #63-22, #64-22 and #65-22

- #63-22** **Reappointment of Elizabeth Sweet to the Zoning Board of Appeals**
HER HONOR THE MAYOR reappointing Elizabeth Sweet, 281 Lexington Street, Auburndale, as an associate member of the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS for a term to expire on January 10, 2023. (60 days: 03/02/22)
- #64-22** **Reappointment of Lei Reilley to the Zoning Board of Appeals**
HER HONOR THE MAYOR reappointing Lei Reilley, 130 Pine Street, Newton, as an associate member of the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS for a term to expire on January 10, 2023. (60 days: 03/02/22)
- #65-22** **Reappointment of Denise Chicoine to the Zoning Board of Appeals**
HER HONOR THE MAYOR reappointing Denise Chicoine, 275 Islington Road, Newton, as an associate member of the ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS for a term to expire on January 10, 2023. (60 days: 03/02/22)

Unscheduled items

- #38-22 Discussion and review relative to the draft Zoning Ordinance regarding village centers**
ZONING & PLANNING COMMITTEE requesting review, discussion and possible ordinance amendments relative to Chapter 30 zoning ordinances pertaining to Mixed Use, business districts and village districts relative to the draft Zoning Ordinance. (formerly #88-20)
- #40-22 Request for discussion relative to existing small businesses and new development**
COUNCILORS ALBRIGHT, KELLEY AND BOWMAN requesting the Planning Department, along with the Economic Development Commission, research and develop tools including an ordinance or some other means, to ensure that existing small commercial/retail/independent and/or locally-owned businesses can remain in Newton when new development occurs. (formerly #39-20)
- #41-22 Requesting a discussion on how “last mile” delivery services should be regulated**
COUNCILORS LAREDO, ALBRIGHT, HUMPHREY, DOWNS, CROSSLEY, LIPOF, KALIS, WRIGHT, KELLEY, BOWMAN, NORTON AND GROSSMAN requesting a discussion with the Planning Department regarding whether and how “last mile” delivery services with physical locations in village centers should be regulated and what amendments to the zoning code might be needed to address these issues.
When discussed, add to report: On January 3, 2022, Councilor Danberg requested her name be added to this item as a co-docketer.
- #43-22 Review definition and Ordinance Amendment of Two Family detached**
ZONING AND PLANNING COMMITTEE requesting review and to amend the definition 1.5.1.B “Two Family Detached.” (formerly #240-21)
- #44-22 Request for discussion regarding city plans for housing**
COUNCILORS LAREDO, NORTON, OLIVER, WRIGHT, KALIS, LUCAS AND MALAKIE requesting a discussion with the Administration regarding (a) the Administration's current plans and goals for increasing the number and diversity of the housing units in the city, including a breakdown by type of unit and location of developments and (b) improving the use of housing data to inform current and future housing plans and goals. (formerly #325-21)

- #45-22** **Request for discussion relative to increasing the number of inclusionary units**
COUNCILORS LAREDO, WRIGHT, NORTON, MARKIEWICZ, LIPOF, MALAKIE, BAKER, KALIS AND GENTILE requesting a discussion of what specific measures the City can take to meet the 40B threshold (the state's requirement for number of affordable units), including raising the requirements for the number of affordable units in large developments. (formerly #72-20)
- #46-22** **Request for discussion relative to single-family attached dwellings**
COUNCILOR LAREDO requesting a review of the zoning requirements for single-family attached dwelling units. (formerly #38-20)
- #47-22** **Requesting annual updates on Newton's Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI)**
THE ZONING & PLANNING COMMITTEE, COUNCILORS LUCAS AND OLIVER, requesting a conversation with the Director of Planning and Development about Newton's Subsidized Housing Inventory (SHI) and progress towards meeting the affordable housing safe harbor and a request to post the SHI on the City's website. (formerly #307-21)
- #48-22** **Referred to Zoning & Planning and Public Facilities Committees**
Requesting an update on the status of implementing the Climate Action Plan
PUBLIC FACILITIES and ZONING & PLANNING COMMITTEES requesting an update from the Sustainability Team and appropriate staff on the status of implementing Climate Action Plan measures, expanding municipal energy efficiency and renewable energy programs as follows:
Newton Power Choice participation rates, municipal power purchasing contracts for gas and electricity; Solar Power Purchase Agreement including operational and PV installations under construction, municipal energy consumption (DOER report) Green Communities grant funded efficiency projects to date, Energy Coach/ "4 our Future" program and zoning ordinances both to increase building energy efficiency/renewables in the private sector and foster sustainable development patterns. (formerly #324-21)
- #49-22** **Zoning amendment to require solar system installation**
COUNCILORS ALBRIGHT, CROSSLEY, KRINTZMAN, NORTON, DOWNS, DANBERG, LIPOF, NOEL, LEARY, MARKIEWICZ, BOWMAN AND KELLEY requesting an amendment to Chapter 30, Newton Zoning Ordinance, to require solar system installation in certain new construction projects greater than 10,000 square feet. (formerly #32-20)

#50-22

Request for Discussion and Ordinance to require energy use reporting

COUNCILORS CROSSLEY, LEARY, NORTON AND BOWMAN on behalf of the Newton Citizens Commission on Energy (NCCE), requesting discussion and an ordinance that would require large property owners (campuses and large commercial buildings) to report energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions annually to the city of Newton, to be used to encourage reductions in said energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in accordance and support of the goals set forth in the Newton Climate Action Plan. (formerly #181-21)

Referred to Zoning & Planning and Public Facilities Committees

#51-22

Request for energy efficiency analysis during construction

COUNCILORS CROSSLEY, BOWMAN, ALBRIGHT, KELLEY, LEARY, DOWNS AND NORTON requesting a discussion and possible ordinance to require that property owners who are proposing new construction or major renovations, submit an analysis and pricing for providing all electric high efficiency HVAC and appliances as an alternative to fossil fuel powered equipment. (formerly #12-21)

#52-22

Discussion and possible ordinance amendments regarding the utilization of electric vehicle charging stations

COUNCILORS GROSSMAN, LAREDO, BOWMAN, NORTON, ALBRIGHT AND CROSSLEY requesting a discussion and possible ordinance amendments with the Planning Department and the Sustainability Directors regarding allowing the utilization of electric vehicle charging stations on private commercial parking lots by City ordinances, including but not limited to the use of digital advertising to pay for the stations and provide free charging to customers. (formerly #340-21)

#53-22

Requesting an ordinance to require documenting existing conditions of landmarked buildings prior to permitting

COUNCILORS CROSSLEY, DOWNS, LIPOF, KALIS, KELLEY, BOWMAN AND DANBERG requesting a discussion with Planning and Historic Preservation to consider an ordinance requiring, that prior to ISD issuing a permit for renovations to a landmarked building or buildings within historic districts, that a petitioner must have adequately documented existing conditions of the building including its exterior architectural features, by a licensed architect or building professional to the satisfaction of the governing historic commission or district commission. The written order of conditions from the governing commission approving renovations to such a building or structure will be based upon and evaluated against adherence to these documents. (formerly #220-21)

- #54-22** **Request for discussion on zoning to support native plants and pollinators**
COUNCILORS BOWMAN, DOWNS, AND NORTON requesting a discussion on increasing native plants and pollinator friendly plants in Newton. Discussion should include options to change zoning for both residential and commercial projects as well as increase such plantings on public lands. Native plants are environmentally more sustainable as they require less water and pesticides. Native plants attract a variety of birds, butterflies, and other wildlife by providing diverse habitats and food sources. Pollinator friendly plants can help support a healthy ecosystem, our Climate Action Goals, environmental sustainability and are needed to help refurbish native plants for biodiversity, bees and butterflies. (formerly #154-21)
- #55-22** **Requesting a discussion with the Planning Department**
COUNCILORS LIPOF, BOWMAN, CROSSLEY AND ALBRIGHT requesting a discussion with the Planning Department to address concerns relative to the trend of significantly raising grade elevations on lots, using retaining walls, terracing and other means to add soil to conceal a raised basement, which can lead to new buildings that are significantly taller than nearby existing houses in the area, cause denuding of wooded areas and increasing storm water runoff. (formerly #149-21)
- #56-22** **Request for Ordinance requiring topographic data prior to building permit issuance**
COUNCILORS CROSSLEY, ALBRIGHT AND BOWMAN requesting an ordinance to require that topographic data be provided on surveys showing existing and proposed conditions currently required for new construction and additions, prior to issuing construction permits. (formerly #11-21)
- #57-22** **Request for discussion relative to demolition of existing homes in Newton**
COUNCILORS WRIGHT, MALAKIE, BAKER, HUMPHREY, MARKIEWICZ, KALIS AND RYAN requesting discussion of appropriate adjustments to Newton's zoning to discourage the demolition of smaller homes which are being replaced by larger and much more expensive structures. (formerly #75-21)
- #58-22** **Request for a discussion with ISD regarding noise ordinance Compliance**
COUNCILORS BAKER AND RYAN requesting discussion with Inspectional Services about possible ways of enhancing compliance with the provisions of Newton's noise ordinance which limits construction activity to certain times of day and on Sundays and legal holidays, including possible additional measures to advise contractors and subcontractors of applicable rules to minimize the need for complaint driven enforcement by city staff or police. (formerly #98-20)

#59-22 Request for discussion with ISD regarding special permit compliance
COUNCILORS BAKER, LAREDO, AND LIPOF requesting a discussion with the Commissioner of Inspectional Services about the existing and potential resources and practices involved in assuring compliance with zoning special permits once issued by the Council. (formerly #97-20)

#60-22 Community Preservation Committee Annual Update to City Council
COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE CHAIR on behalf of the CPC, requesting a discussion with the City Council to provide an annual update on the status of the CPA funds, the community preservation program and the ordinance in accordance with Sec 7-80 of the Ordinances. (formerly #362-21)

Referred to Zoning & Planning, Public Facilities and Public Safety & Transportation Committees

#72-22 Discussion with Police, DPW and Inspectional Services on sidewalk obstructions
COUNCILORS DOWNS, BOWMAN, MALAKIE, HUMPHREY, WRIGHT, RYAN, GREENBERG, DANBERG, GROSSMAN, AND LUCAS requesting a discussion with Police, Public Works and Inspectional Services regarding sidewalk obstruction, enforcement, regulation, and operating procedures during construction used to ensure safety for nonmotorized road users.
