Bristol Town Administrator

From: Kevin Hanson <khanson.pc@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, September 25, 2023 1:18 PM

To: Michelle Perlee; peeker@gmavt.net; Joel Bouvier; Ian Albinson; Darla Senecal

Cc: Bristol Town Administrator; Robert Rooker; Kris Perlee; Adam Lougee

Subject: Planning Commission By-Law Modernization Final Review and Hearings

Members of the Selectboard,

The Planning Commission has been working on updating Zoning Regs under the By-Law Modernization Grant we received in 2022.

We have reviewed, with ACRPC support, various sections of our current regs to satisfy the grant required aspects to consider. We are in the process of an overall final review of the draft reg changes at our meetings in October.

We anticipate conducting the 2 required Planning Commission public hearings on the reg changes in November, giving the Selectboard the ability to conduct their 1 public hearing in the December timeframe.

This is all to accomplish the timing requirements of the grant.

- The grant has a forgiveness clause for the matching funds (10%) if the work is completed by December 31, 2023.
- We have agreement from the Department of Housing and Community Development that any voter approval could take place after December 31, 2023, to accommodate a vote at Town Meeting 2024.

With the recent passing of the State's Act Relating to Housing Opportunities Made for Everyone (S.100), the Selectboard can administratively approve changes in Unified Development/Zoning Regs instead of a vote of the electorate. As we enter into the hearing phase, it would be important to communicate out the process including final approval (Selectboard or by vote).

The Planning Commission would ask that the Selectboard determine a direction for approval prior to our hearings in November.

Thanks,

Kevin Hanson

Chair, Bristol Planning Commission