

Report of the Planning Board

ROLE OF THE PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board has three primary roles:

1. Regulatory
 - a. Reviewing applications for Excavation permit renewals, Subdivisions, Lot Line Adjustments and Site Plans.
 - b. Drafting new and amending existing Zoning Ordinances and Regulations.
 - c. Manages Compliance Monitoring performed by consulting Town Engineers.
2. Non-Regulatory
 - a. Developing and maintaining a Master Plan - A Master Plan is a planning document that serves to guide the overall character, appearance, growth, and development of a community. It provides guidance to local officials making decisions on budgets, ordinances, capital improvements, zoning and subdivision matters, and other growth related issues.
 - b. Develop and maintain a Capital Improvement Program (CIP). CIP links local infrastructure investments with Master Plan goals, Land Use Ordinances, and economic development. A CIP bridges the gap between planning and spending, between the visions of the Master Plan and the fiscal realities of improving and expanding community facilities.
3. Regional Planning - Communicating with and/or reporting information to the Board of Selectmen, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Conservation Commission and the Rockingham Planning Commission as well as State agencies such as the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NH DES), the Office of Strategic Initiatives (OSI), and the New Hampshire Municipal Association (NHMA).

PLANNING BOARD ACTIVITIES

During 2020 the Planning Board met twice monthly to review the following applications:

- Excavation Renewal Permits for 4 (four) local gravel pit operations including site visits.
- 1 (one) Subdivision Review for an 8-Lot Open Space Preservation Subdivision on Scribner Road
- 2 (two) Lot Line Adjustments on Copp Drive and South Road
- 1 (one) Major Site Plan Review on South Road for an Age-Restricted Development
- 1 (one) Amended Site Plan Review for Spaulding Road
- 4 (four) Minor Site Plan Reviews
- 3 (three) Change in Use Reviews

In September, the Board completed the first update to the Town's Master Plan in several years including Vision and Growth Management sections. We hope you took time to take the survey

on what you like about Fremont and what you would like to see in the future! Results of the survey including all comments and the updated Master Plan sections are available on the Board's webpage. In 2021, the Board plans to update the Town's Land Use and Recreation Chapters including associated visions and goals. Be sure to participate and be part of your future.



Photo of postcard from the Matthew Thomas Collection used in the Vision chapter of the Master Plan.
This card depicted "Fremont NH in the Future."

The Board also approved 2 (two) proposed Zoning Ordinance Amendments for the Town to vote on in 2021. The Zoning changes will be presented to voters in March 2021.

PLANNING BOARD BUDGET

In 2020, the Planning and Zoning Boards spent \$48,618 of the \$51,788 budgeted. In addition to covering administrative and operating costs of the Land Use department, a portion of the budget goes toward government consulting services provided by a Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) Circuit Rider who reviews all applications before the Board, provides professional input on Land Use Office inquiries and attends Board meetings including advising the Board on procedural matters. The RPC also provides consulting services for updating the Town's Master Plan, Zoning Ordinance, and Capital Improvement Planning. Our 2020 spend also included consulting services provided by BCM Planning, LLC for their review and input on a recently approved update to Public School Impact Fee Assessment Methodology.

PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS

Your current Planning Board Members are:

Paul Powers	Chairman	Andrew Kohlhofer	Vice-Chairman
Roger Barham	Selectman	John (Jack) Karcz	Member
Tim Lavelle	Member	Mike Wason	Member
Leanne Miner	Alternate Member		

There are vacancies on the Planning Board if you are interested in getting involved in community issues, participating in updating the Town's Master Plan, and making decisions that shape our community. Consider attending meetings and joining as an alternate member to gain the experience and knowledge to make a difference.

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions for the Planning Board, please contact me in the Land Use Office. I can be reached at 895 3200 x 306 or by email at landuse@fremont.nh.gov.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of the Planning Board,

Leanne Miner
Land Use Administrative Assistant

Work progressing on Currier Lane, an over 55 development approved by the Planning Board in 2020.

This is an elderly open space development.

Photo courtesy of Chris Cloutier

