

FINAL

Bridgewater Planning Board
January 21, 2025 Work Session Minutes

Board members present: Chair- Patrick Roach, Ken Weidman, Steve Hering, Joe Wilkas, Paul Wilson, Jeff Bird, Ex-officio- Terry Murphy

Public present: No public present

Patrick called the meeting to order at 7 PM. The board ensured the mylar for NFCS had enough signatures, and Patrick directed the board to review the minutes from September 17, 2024. Paul made a motion to accept the minutes, Patrick seconded, Joe abstained, and the motion passed unanimously. Patrick directed the board to review the minutes from October 15, 2024. Jeff made a motion to the accept the minutes as amended (the amendments of moving P. Wesley Morrill Jr. from “members present” to “public present” as an abutter, verifying the total square footage of Newfound Country Store, a corrected vote wording regarding Steve on page 5, and page numbers where appropriate), Ken seconded, Paul abstained, and the motion passed unanimously.

Discussion was continued from prior meetings regarding the development of a noise ordinance (time of day restrictions, enforceability for the police department, types of noise, possible differentiations for the three zones, reasonable expectations of private versus commercial noise, waivers/exception considerations, decibel limitations, water acoustics), brainstorming RV/Airbnb’s/short term rental stipulations, creating reasonable controls on garage conversions and their potential for septic issues (adding bedrooms), and discussing creating a responsible removal requirement for trees ranging from single trees to clear cutting. Jeff volunteered to develop an initial framework for establishing a noise ordinance to present at the next meeting.

Joe made a motion to adjourn, Steve seconded, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.