

APPROVED
HDC MEETING
FEBRUARY 6, 2020

Members Chair Rodney Rowland, Vice Chair Jeff Hughes, Tom Maher, Kate Murray,
Present: Elaine Nollet, Irene Bush and Judy Groppa

Chair Rowland called the meeting of the New Castle HDC to order at 7:00 pm. Rowland stated there was one public hearing on the agenda and directed that anyone wishing to speak, must please sign in. The Chair also advised that the application was published, fees paid and abutters notified. Rowland, Hughes, Maher, Murray, and Nollet will be voting.

1. Public Hearing for Stephen and Stephanie Johnson, 23 Oliver St, Map 16 Lot 24 for a new shed.

Guest: Stephen Johnson

Mr. Johnson stated the house does not have a basement so they would like to put a garden shed in the yard. It will be a pre-fabricated 6' x 8' shed. There is a picture on the last page of the application of a shed from a company in Brentwood. The shed comes in pieces and Mr. Johnson will assemble it. Mr. Johnson has gone to the Zoning Board and received approval to push the shed back to the fence. The Chair stated he did not believe that it would be very visible from the road and Mr. Johnson stated that you may see the peak of the roof.

Judy Groppa asked what material the shed would be made of and Mr. Johnson stated the siding will be cedar and the shed will have a door and a single window. The shed will not have any utilities and will sit on pavers as it is a condition of the Zoning Board that there be no permanent foundation.

The Chair opened the meeting to the public but there being no one to speak, the public hearing was closed at 7:05 p.m.

M/S/P Vice Chair Hughes moved to approve construction of the shed as submitted;
Elaine Nollet seconded. All in favor.

Johnson wanted to informally ask the commission if it had an opinion on solar voltaic on houses. The Chair advised that there are guidelines on the town's website and to date, three locations have been approved. The Chair stated there is an installation on River Road that fits the criteria and was approved by the commission. Mr. Johnson stated that their house faces south and although not imminent, they would like to consider solar panels in the future

2. Approval of minutes of meeting of January 2, 2020

M/S/P Jeff Hughes moved to approve the minutes of January 2, 2020 as amended; Murray seconded. All approved.

3. Old and New Business

The Chair stated that a lot of work has been completed on the historic survey and a bill has been submitted. Groppa asked the Chair how he knew they had done the work and whether they have sent photos. The Chair stated he has talked on the phone with the woman working on the survey and thousands of pictures have been taken. He added that the woman used to live in Newcastle. Rowland is completing the application for a second grant to continue the process. The application is due on the 14th of February.

The Chair advised that he will be away for the April meeting and asked the Vice Chair if he was available. Although Hughes will be in Dartmouth for a seminar during the day, he believes he will be back in time to chair the meeting.

Hughes moved to adjourn the meeting; Murray seconded. All approved.

Adjourned 7:12 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Diane L. Cooley, Recording Secretary