

**Minutes  
Webster Planning Board  
Master Plan Meeting  
July 24, 2018**

The Master Plan meeting started at 6:30 p.m. Attendees included Planning Board Chair Susan Rauth and member Paul King. Participants included Chief Steve Adams, Roger Becker, Sally Becker, Marty Bender, Dee Blake, Linda Clark, Dave Collins, Dora Collins, Leslie Collins, Sally Embley, Sandy Estep, Nancy Picthall-French, Bruce Johnson, Therese Larson, Leslie Palmer, MJ Turcotte, Chris Schadler (Conservation Commission) and Nanci Schofield (Select Board).

Following the introductions, Susan Rauth explained the format of the meeting and the handout of recommendations from updated chapters and sections of the Master Plan.

The progress on the Master Plan update was reviewed. Sally Becker submitted an update to the draft report on behalf of the **Fire Department**, which will be reviewed by the Fire Department head and personnel before finalization.

Webster Police Chief Steve Adams presented the **Police Department** report for the Master Plan. He noted incident calls rose over the past ten years, from 1,843 to 2,346 (representing a nearly 30% increase from 2008 to 2017). The increase in calls for service are mostly due to an increase in traffic and in criminal activity. He discussed the long-term need for additional staff and equipment over the next five to ten years. He also described necessary repairs to the Safety Complex, including the concrete pad. It was noted by Bruce Johnson that the Select Board have been waiting for a quote on the concrete since last fall's CIP project. Chief Adams indicated he would get three quotes for the repair.

Susan Rauth reported the recommendation for the **Transfer Station** is to develop a contingency plan in the event there are changes in the administrative of the Hopkinton/Webster transfer station. Sally Embley, Webster rep on the Transfer Station committee, indicated there is a national crisis for recycling because the markets are becoming limited, including glass and plastic. China no longer wants certain recycled materials. There is an issue with "clean" trash and limited landfill space. Biomass plants have been eliminated for burning materials. Recycling is a very complex process. Sally agreed to contribute more information about the Transfer Station.

Susan Rauth reported on behalf of the **Cemetery Trustees**. The trustees plan to implement an automated data base to document the burial plots and catalog the identity and location of the individuals buried there. There was discussion about the possibility to allow a "green burial" process. The Master Plan committee will ask the Cemetery Trustees if they have any information about this and are willing to follow up on this interest.

Susan Rauth reported on behalf of the **Webster Youth Soccer** (WYS) and the needs of the town soccer program. The WYS was organized as a separate non-profit organization in 2008, in order

to expand annual sponsorship and funding options. The town provides general maintenance of the field and the WYS oversees the soccer related structures and materials. For the Master Plan, WYS recommends renovations and upgrades to the soccer field including field repairs and an irrigation system. They would like to install a permanent fence structure at the south end of the field. It was noted there is a WYS account in the town budget with a small annual allocation.

The section of the plan focusing on Webster **Utilities and Communication** services was updated by Jere Buckley and presented by Susan Rauth, which recommends the Select Board continues to monitor relevant regulations and appropriate actions. The Select Board continues to monitor the performance of the solar panel installation and arrange for maintenance.

Leslie Palmer presented the significant recommendations from the **Hazard Mitigation Plan**:

- Upgrade/replace Clothespin Bridge;
- Install lightning rods and grounding equipment at the Town Office and Public Safety Complex;
- Install a dry hydrant on Deer Meadow Road at Little Pond Brook;
- Upgrade the Pillsbury Lake District water lines;
- Purchase land and construct a new sale/sand shed;
- Develop a policy to improve communication with Pillsbury Lake about problems and environmental issues;
- Develop a public education program for Blackwater River shoreland land owners of the flotation risks of unsecured tanks, objects and agricultural supplies;
- Develop a public education program about available emergency notification systems.

Chris Schadler presented the Webster Conservation Commission's **Natural Resources** chapter, including regulations, education and enforcement efforts to protect surface water, shoreland buffers, wetlands, drinking water and aquifers, farmland, wildlife habitat, conservation of open space and forests. They recommend updating the zoning ordinance and subdivision regulations to support these goals. WCC also encourages consideration of the scenic views, scenic roads, soils and steep slopes. Chris Schadler presented specific highlights from the report including:

- Support conservation subdivision zoning regulation;
- Nominate the Blackwater River to the NH Rivers Management and Protection Program;
- Adopt a local ordinance to protect drinking water and prevent or limit commercial groundwater withdrawals;
- Work with neighboring towns to create contiguous open space to ensure wildlife movement;
- Keep abreast of Army Corps of Engineer plans that may affect the 1,117 acres behind the dam.

The Conservation Commission has the ability to use the funds from the Land Use Change Tax to help with survey costs, fees, trusts and other costs associated with assistance to landowners who may want to put land into conservation.

MJ Turcotte and Sandy Estep presented updated goals and objectives for the **Pillsbury Lake** section of the Master Plan:

Goal: To maintain the quality of Pillsbury Lake for the enjoyment of the community

Objectives:

- To continue to work with NH DES to monitor the quality of the lake;
- To develop a working relationship with the Webster Conservation Commission to address shoreland protection laws;
- To keep the 2% building cap ordinance to preclude overdevelopment in the Community;
- To see that Pillsbury Lake follows the Best Practices for Fireworks issued by DES.

Goal: To include Pillsbury Lake Community, aka the Pillsbury Lake Village District, as an integral part of the Town of Webster, and strive to maintain and enhance a beneficial and encompassing relationship with the Town.

Objectives:

- To facilitate the enforcement of the Restrictions and Easements, the Town ordinances and applicable State and Federal laws and regulations for the benefit and welfare of the Town and the Pillsbury Lake District;
- To ensure that current information is provided to both developers and residents regarding State law and the Restrictions and Easements;
- To continue the social activities provided by Pillsbury Lake Management, Inc., to allow both the residents of the Town and Pillsbury Lake Community to interact through fun and educational forums;
- To look for and present occasions which will encompass both the young and old residents of the Town;
- To take an active part in Town governance.

Goal: To maintain and enhance the Pillsbury Community Water System

Objectives:

- To continue to repair and search for leaks as needed;
- To continue to increase the Capital Reserve and to search for new sources of funds, including other, budgeted, state and federal funds.

The group discussed the nuisance aspect of fireworks in terms of adding pollutants to the Town water bodies; noise; disturbing other residents, wildlife and pets. There were mixed reactions to the issue.

The next meeting will be scheduled in August, and we will have reports and updates on the Historic and Cultural Resources, Housing and Transportation sections of the plan. The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Susan Rauth, Chair, Webster Planning Board