

Town Planner's Report 6/10/2015 – 7/7/2015

Ongoing work:

- **Quinebaug Regional Technology Park (QRTP) & YMCA:**

- Met with the Town Administrator and representatives of the project's engineering team, on 6/22, Re: progress on sewer, water, natural gas, electricity, and bridge and roadway construction to and within the Park, Phase 1, and associated construction relative to the YMCA.

- **Plan of Conservation and Development (POCD) 2015 Update:**

- Continued background research and updates, in text preparation for plan update, including sections on demographics and housing, historical/cultural resources, land use, public facilities/services, transportation, economic and community development, and consistency with state and regional plans of conservation and development.
- Working towards the development of goals and objectives, and action steps to fulfill the goals and objectives, for historical/cultural issues, land use, public facilities/services, transportation, and economic and community development sections of the Plan, which will be used in the implementation tables.
- Continued mapping projects for the Plan, which will be finalized upon obtaining necessary GIS software.
- Corresponded with and briefly met with the Town Historian relative to a redraft of the Historical/Cultural section of the Plan, to include updates and information on the Arts Council.
- Corresponded with the DPW Director relative to a Bridges subsection for incorporation into the Transportation section of the POCD.
- Spoke with the POCD Update Committee Chairman, and Vice Chairman, to discuss the final format of the 2015 POCD, including the formation of goals and objectives and action steps as noted above, mapping, and the scheduling of future meetings in anticipation of the receipt of additional GIS software and datalayers needed to create maps (the next logical step) for the Plan over the next several weeks.
- Addressed the very recent passage of Public Act No. 15-95, which amends the statutes to require that the POCD shall identify the general location and extent of any (1) areas served by existing sewerage systems, (2) areas where sewerage systems are planned, and (3) areas where sewers are to be avoided, by meeting with the Town's GIS consultant and the Town Administrator for initiating the process for the consultant to create a mapping datalayer for this new requirement, which has begun and is under way.
- Continuing to compile all of the updates, materials, information and items discussed at the thirteen POCD Update Committee meetings held to date, and mapping and additional information referenced above, in preparation of the final draft of the Plan tentatively during the summer of 2015, based on continuing discussion on the goals, objectives and policies, action items, and mapping for the 2015 POCD at the next meeting of the POCD Update Committee, tentatively scheduled for July 20, 2015.

Other Projects/Tasks:

- Met with the DEEP and USDA's appointed representative of Connecticut's Microgrid program and the Recreation Director, relative to the establishment of a system of microgrids for the Town. The Parks and Recreation buildings were assessed for potential energy conservation measures in coordination with the prospective establishment of microgrids within the Town.
- Attended a meeting with staff and with the contractor for the Town's new phone system to discuss options for the development of the system.
- Attended the Connecticut Chapter of the American Planning Association's annual June conference, entitled *Hot Topics in Land Use Law and Practice 2015*, on 6/12. Topics included updates on planning-related legislation, updates in planning-related law, an update on the Connecticut Siting Council, an update on the DEEP Clean Water Act Storm Water Program, and Ethics in Planning.
- Attended the Zoning Commission meeting on 6/17.
- Distributed modified draft of proposed updates to the Subdivision Regulations, prepared after several meetings with the DPW Director and the Regional Engineer (NECCOG) and redrafts by the Regional Engineer and myself of applicable portions of the Regulations and several Planning Commission workshops, to the Planning Commission. The Commission did not meet in June, so a work session on the updated Subdivision Regulations is expected at the Planning Commission's 7/27 meeting, which could be on the final draft of updates to the Subdivision Regulations, on which a hearing will be held to allow the Commission to present and vote on these updates, tentatively during the late summer or early fall of 2015.
- Corresponded between the DPW Director, Mayor's Office staff, and the product vendor relative to the purchase, delivery and installation of the equipment for the double electric vehicle (EV) charging station within the municipal parking lot [delivered on 6/25 and installed on 6/26 – 6/29].
- Reviewed information relative to the proposal for modification of the telecommunications facility at 63 Industrial Park Road [no particular land use or planning issues found; project is subject to approval by the CT Siting Council].
- Provided assistance to the Economic and Community Development director relative to land use issues at 88 Main Street and Lot 9 in the industrial Park. Presently further investigating sewerage issues relative to Lot 9 with Town Counsel.
- On 7/1, attended the Municipal Inland Wetlands Agency Continuing Education Workshop on Legal and Administrative Updates.
- At the request of the Town Administrator, continuing to follow development of state water plans.