

**Chaplin Planning & Zoning Commission**  
**Special Meeting Minutes**  
**Chaplin Town Hall**  
**September 23, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Doug Dubitsky (Chair), Pete Fiasconaro (Vice-Chair), Helen Weingart, Ken Fortier, Alternate Dan Pearce.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Randy Godaire, Dave Garceau, Eric Beer, Alternate Bill Ireland, Alternate Peter Haines.

**ALTERNATES SEATED:** Seat Dan Pearce for Eric Beer.

**ALSO PRESENT:** First Selectman Bill Rose, Zoning Enforcement Officer (ZEO) Jay Gigliotti and Recording Clerk Kathleen Scott.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**A. SP21-158-Town of Chaplin, Special Permit Application for Fire Department Message Board per Zoning Regulations Sec. 5.11:**

ZEO J. Gigliotti reported that this meeting is to discuss special permit application accepted at the last meeting with a potential for scheduling a Public Hearing for the next meeting on October 14<sup>th</sup>. First Selectman Bill Rose presented information and technical data on proposed Fire Department Message Board that is too large for the RAR Zone and addressed questions from the Commission. The Message Board would get the word out to the community on current events and emergency situations. The LED lighting is created with pixels on a dark board, is dimmable and doesn't project out like a spotlight. The message would be managed through the Selectman's office on the phone or computer with a curfew of 9-10pm. Messages must be large enough to read safely and could be static (unlimited messages and storage for old messages). There would be a banner on top with the Chaplin Fire Department not lit (the Fire Department is an emergency shelter with water and a charging station). The project will be funded with \$70,000 from the STEAP Grant and about \$10,000 in town funds for electrical and landscaping. The proposed sign will replace the current sign (not lit) that is 26ft back from the road (far enough not to be damaged by snow from a plow truck) with no infringement on sight lines. The address is necessary to direct repairmen. The project is positive for the town to improve communication and people will be looking for the messages.

D. Dubitsky commented that Attorney O'Brien made a valiant effort to make sure the application fits within the zoning regulations and suggested sending to a Public Hearing.

***Motion to set a Public Hearing on October 14, 2021 for SP21-158 Special Permit Application for Fire Department Message Board, made by H. Weingart, seconded by P. Fiasconaro. All in favor, motion carried.***

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion to adjourn (6:28 PM) by D. Pearce, seconded by K. Fortier. All in favor, motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted by,  
Recording Clerk Kathleen Scott