



Amesbury Technical Review Committee

April 16, 2025

City Hall Auditorium

62 Friend St.

9:30 am

In attendance: Joe Buckley, Chief Bailey, Robert Serino, Nipun Jain, and Lauren Blatchford, Chief Nolan, Jim Wilson, Nick Cracknell, Howard Snyder, Amanda Armington, and Becky Frey

Absent: Lisa DeMeo,

Chief Bailey called the meeting to order at 9:37 am.

Outdoor Dining Permit Review:

1. 18 Friend St. – Barking Dog

Jeffrey Nahas was present to speak for the Barking Dog application. The intention was to streamline it this year. The plan is to put the 3-4 tables on the grass and not impede the parking lot entrance.

Nick Cracknell commented that they are assuming that their property line is the back of the sidewalk. Everything between the sidewalk and building wall is presumed to be the restaurant's property. It looks like they are going to use some of the sidewalk to put up the corral. They will need to keep 4 feet of the sidewalk clear for access, but they can use up to 3 feet of the 7-foot sidewalk. That would total to 120 sf for the outdoor usage fee. Jeffrey Nahas confirmed that made sense. Nick Cracknell noted they will need to contain the area if they are serving alcohol. It does not have to be jersey barriers, but they do need to put up a corral. Jeffrey Nahas confirmed they would.

Becky Frey added that they will need to go to the Liquor License Commission for approval to serve alcohol outside.

Chief Bailey motioned to recommend approval for the Barking Dog Outdoor Dining Application based on Nick Cracknell's sidewalk analysis diagram. Seconded by Nick Cracknell.

Joe Buckley questioned if there would be any impact on the walk in the front of the restaurant. Jeffrey Nahas responded there would not be.

The motion passed unanimously.

Administrative:



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1. [276, 278, 280 Main St.](#) – ZBA Comment Request

Nick Cracknell commented that some are under the mistaken impression that there is no capacity for this project to connect to the water main on Main St. This may be because of prior conversations from previous staff. The ZBA is trying to adjudicate the application with this question out there. The only department that can answer the question about whether or not there is a barrier on the water is DPW. It would be helpful to have an indication that this project has the ability to connect to the water main as it is.

Joe Buckley questioned if they specifically asked for comment on the water or if they asked for comment on the application.

Becky Frey commented that the ZBA requested comments on the application from the departments that comprise the Technical Review Committee.

Nick Cracknell noted that they need to make sure they are doing a thorough review and are providing proactive comments. If you don't comment ahead of time, then it is harder to comment after the fact. It is hard to find out big surprises later.

Becky Frey added that it would be helpful if the subject matter experts could address items proactively for the ZBA to understand if there is or is not a problem for specific items. The police department should comment on traffic, the DPW should comment on infrastructure, and the fire department should comment on the egress changes.

2. Address Process

Chief Bailey commented that they had a conversation the other day about how public safety assigns addresses. There is a subcommittee already working on this offline. It is part of the bigger conversation around accepted streets.

Rob Serino commented that the address needs to be in place before they apply for building permits. Something like the Rocky Hill development will need conversations on the street names and addresses.

3. Minutes 4-2-25



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Jim Wilson motioned to approve the TRC minutes from 4-2-25. Seconded by Howard Snyder. The motion passed unanimously. Chief Bailey and Joe Buckley abstained because they were not at the meeting.

4. Adjourn

Nick Cracknell motioned to adjourn at 10:05 am. Seconded by Jim Wilson. The motioned passed unanimously.