

## Memorandum

Date: May 20, 2020

To: Town Board

From: Ray Burger, Planning Director

Subject: Planning Department Update

**Application materials** and other documents for some of the items below can be found at:

<http://dryden.ny.us>

**Planning Department Offices closed to the public since March 16 due to COVID-19:** Planning Department business continues with half of staff working remotely. The Phase One Reopening which began May 16 included the construction industry and Code Enforcement is essential to that business. Code Enforcement Officers continue to inspect construction projects and deal with code violations. Applications, complaints and inquiries are accepted via email ([planning@dryden.ny.us](mailto:planning@dryden.ny.us)), phone and mail.

**Comprehensive Plan Update:** The Planning Board committee working to update the comprehensive plan held a virtual meeting on May 13. The committee is exploring ways to survey the community as a way to keep advancing this project. Please check the website [Dryden2045.org](http://Dryden2045.org) to inform yourself about this Town project and engage in the process. You can also sign up for updates or leave a comment.

**Solar project at 2150 Dryden Road is ready to break ground:** There are two site plan modifications that the Town Board will be reviewing this month and next. This month there is a proposal to lift the seasonal tree cutting restriction that was meant to protect the Northern Long-Eared Bat as it has been determined that neither the animal nor its habitat exist on this site. Next month the details of how this project connects to the grid at the interconnect site on George Road will be reviewed.

**Dollar General Store proposed for 1408 Dryden Road:** The Broadway Group LLC submitted revised site plan materials for a retail store at this address. The Planning Board will conduct full site plan review of this project at their May 28 virtual meeting. Details for participating in this Zoom meeting will be posted on the Town website.

**Townhome Development at 9 Freese Road:** An application to develop 32 townhomes at this site near the Freese and Dryden Roads intersection is continuing to be reviewed by the Planning Board. The same developer is also looking to modify the site plan of the adjoining lot at 5 Freese Road.

**Rail Trail project to Bridge Route 13:** The Project to build a pedestrian bridge across Route 13 at the Dryden Rail Trail is supported by a \$1.5 million federal grant and \$345,000 from the state. This month the NYS Department of Transportation confirmed that those funds are obligated.

**Zoning Board of Appeals (ZBA) to Hear Area Variance Request:** An application for partial relief from the front yard setback will be reviewed by the ZBA at a virtual meeting on June 2. Meeting details will be posted on the Town website.

**The Ithaca Area Wastewater Treatment Plant (IAWWTP) Need Four Pumps Replaced:** This capital project which will cost the Town approximately \$2000 will need to be reviewed by the Town Board. A public hearing will likely be scheduled for June.

Planning Department activity for TOWN for April

- Building permits: 9
- Zoning permits: 4
- Special Use Permit Reviews: 0
- Site Plan Reviews: 1
- Variance reviews: 0
- New businesses: 0
- Fire safety inspections: 0
- Building inspections: 8
- Certificates of Occupancy/Compliance: 0
- Subdivisions: 1
- Violation notices: 2
- Complaints: 2
- Fire calls: 0
- Training hours: 0

Planning Department activity for VILLAGE for April

- Building permits: 0
- Zoning permits: 0
- Special Use Permit reviews: 0
- Site Plan Reviews: 0
- Variance reviews: 0
- New businesses: 0
- Fire safety inspections: 0
- Building inspections: 1
- Certificates of Occupancy/Compliance: 1
- Subdivisions: 0
- Violation notices: 0
- Complaints: 3
- Fire calls: 0