

## CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

**July 19, 2004 – 6:30 p.m.**

**Council Chambers**

Council Present: Mayor Sirrell, Assistant Mayor Hanson, Councilors Grasso, Ferrini, Marchand, Hynes, Reynolds and Whitehouse

Council Absent: Councilor Pantelakos

Present: John Bohenko, City Manager; City Hayden, Deputy City Manager; Rick Hopley, Chief Building Inspector; David Holden, Planning Director; Planning Board Members Smith, Ricci, Sullivan, Will, Coker, Hejtmanek, and Savramis

### **Request to Rename Big Rock Park**

Mayor Sirrell read a letter from Mr. Belmont with his request to keep the name as Big Rock Park with a plaque stating in loving memory. She reported that funds have been collected and still need \$200.00 for the plaque.

City Manager Bohenko said that generally the City does contribute funds in dedication ceremonies for plaques. He offered that the funds could be taken from contingency.

The City Council agreed unanimously.

### **Zoning Ordinance Amendment and Master Plan**

City Manager Bohenko introduced Rick Taintor, Consultant, on this endeavor. Mr. Taintor presented a slideshow on the changes including the vision statement, actions, goals, objectives, and strategies.

George Hejtmanek agrees with the issues of affordable housing. He feels there is a far share of low-income housing and mansions but lack mid level homes.

Councilor Grasso suggested considering an overlay district outside of the historic district areas. She wants to continue seeing unique neighborhood characteristics. She expressed concern with people that buy lots and tear down a building to rebuild one that is not aesthetic to the neighborhood.

John Sullivan agreed with Councilor Grasso.

Councilor Whitehouse also suggests an overlay district.

Assistant Mayor Hanson questioned if the master plan addresses affordable housing. Rick explained that they have looked at mixed used corridor areas that are currently zoned commercial as a place for homes.

Mayor Sirrell expressed her concern with the wetlands and people encroaching on the areas. She said that the wetlands need to be preserved and that our wells must be protected.

Rick presented a zoning ordinance map with the amendments noted along with pending proposals.

City Manager Bohenko requested the City Council to informally decide on the overlay concept. The City Council agreed unanimously. City Manager Bohenko explained that the staff would work on an overlay district and bring the proposal before the Council to review with a supplemental written map.

The work session was closed at 7:40 p.m.

Minutes taken and typed by:

B. Christopher Maxwell, Deputy City Clerk