**Town of Bridgton**

**Ordinance Review Committee ~ November 11, 2020 Meeting Minutes:**

* Meeting called to order at 6:15pm.
* Pledge of Allegiance
* **Attendance:** Len Rudin (Chair); Kevin Raday (Vice Chair); Samantha Zawistowski (Secretary); Mary Tworog; Glen Garland; Phil Jones (Police Chief)

**Absent:** Lee Eastman (Board of Selectman Liaison); Deb Brusini;

* Approval of minutes from August 19
* Approval of minutes from September 23
* Phil Jones expert opinion on Disorderly House
  + Is a useful tool to help them guide their police work
    1. We have state funded housing, possibility of police contacting the landlord is an incentive to improve behavior
    2. Troublesome people may be inclined to move and therefore reduce police/fire/etc calls
  + Protecting those affected by domestic violence is important
    1. If domestic violence falls under this ordinance, victims are less likely to call for help
    2. State that domestic violence is not included in the ordinance – put into definition
  + Targets owner and not the person?
    1. There is a lot of due process, not an immediate fine
    2. Ordinance is a check on the owners to be sure that they are taking responsibility for their tenants, but they are not definitively going to be fined/etc
  + It is rare that anyone gets to the point of going before the board
* Phil Jones expert opinion on curfew ordinance
  + Important though not always used, incentive to stay home and not cause trouble
  + Legal authority to tell kids to get off the street, help keep the Town and them safe
  + Penalties: Community service for kids, fine for parents
    1. Restorative justice/restorative practice – non punitive way to show kids the error of their way and create a learning/growing experience (recommends using this specific language)
* Phil Jones expert opinion on fireworks/nudity
  + Nudity ordinance – language looked fine
  + Fireworks
    1. Clarify that fireworks cannot be lit on public land (Town could be liable for damages)
    2. Weekends only – reduce phone traffic at the police station, less complaints
  + If there is timing/curfew, consider making it all the same time – ease of remembering for citizens and police officers (only if it makes sense)
* Next meeting will be virtual. We will review the Nudity, Fireworks, and Disorderly House Ordinances, then return to reviewing the curfew and dog ordinances
* Fireworks ordinance changes
  + Eliminate exception for boat houses, specify that docks must be attached to the land
  + Change curfew to 11pm to match the curfew ordinance – check state law
  + State clearly that public property also requires permission from the owner
  + Don’t specify combustible material (too vague a term)

**Action Items:**

* Len: Invite Linda LaCroix to next meeting
* Samantha: Send updated redlined Ordinances to Committee and Ordinance Summaries, Submit Minutes

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, December 16th @ 6:15pm

**Meeting Adjourned @ 7:10pm**

Sincerely, Samantha Zawistowski