

October 9, 2019

**NOTICE TO PROPERTY OWNERS
CITY OF BELFAST PUBLIC HEARINGS
NORDIC AQUAFARMS PERMIT APPLICATIONS**

The City of Belfast is continuing its review of permit applications submitted by Nordic Aquafarms, Inc to develop a land-based salmon aquaculture facility on a 56 acre site located on the northwesterly side of Route One near the lower reservoir of the Little River. To date, the Belfast Planning Board has conducted 8 meetings on the application, 5 of which meetings included multiple public hearings, and the Board is scheduled to meet tonight (October 9) to consider 5 additional components of the application. This notice is to provide you an overall schedule for upcoming meetings, while also noting that the specific dates and issues to be considered at several of the meetings may be subject to change. You can obtain updated information regarding the City review of this application by consulting the City website: cityofbelfast.org, reference the planning and codes link, Nordic Aquafarms Permit Applications, or by directly contacting our office; call 338-1417 x 125, or email public@cityofbelfast.org.

The following meetings have been scheduled:

- 1) Belfast Planning Board, Wednesday, October 16, 2019, meeting at 6:00 pm at the University of Maine Hutchinson Center, Room 138 Conference facility. The Hutchinson Center is located at 80 Belmont Avenue. Issues scheduled for review and public hearings at this meeting include:
 - Natural Resources, particularly reference Attachment 11, Natural Resources.
 - Wetland and Stream Survey/Impact, particularly reference Attachment 34.
 - Flooding, particularly reference Attachment 19.Board review also will consider information in the application in Attachment 4, Zoning, Attachment 5, Site Plan, Attachment 6, Shoreland, and Attachment 7, Technical Standards that are associated with the above concerns. In addition, agenda issues that are not completed at the October 9 meeting may be continued to the October 16 meeting.
- 2) Belfast Harbor Committee, Thursday, October 24, 2019, meeting at 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers of Belfast City Hall that is located at 131 Church St. The Harbor Committee will consider requirements identified in Chapter 82, Shoreland. The role of the Harbor Committee is to provide a recommendation on Shoreland Permit requirements to the Belfast Planning Board; the Harbor Committee is advisory to the Planning Board. The Harbor Committee will conduct a public hearing at the meeting. At present, it is uncertain if the Committee may need more than one meeting to consider its recommendation to the Planning Board.
- 3) Belfast Planning Board. The Planning Board's schedule for the remainder of October and for November and December is still being formulated.
 - October: The Board will not meet on October 23, and the Board meeting on Wednesday, October 30 may or may not involve the Nordic application. The Board will make a decision on the issues to be addressed at its October 30 meeting at the end of its October 16 meeting.
 - November: The Board plans to meet on Wednesday, November 6, Wednesday, November 13 and Wednesday, November 20. Two of the above meeting dates likely will be devoted to the Nordic project review; however, the specific dates are not yet identified.
 - December: The Board is currently scheduled to meet on Wednesday, December 5, and Wednesday, December 11. At least one of these dates will be devoted to the Nordic project review.

With the exception of traffic (Attachment 17), the Planning Board, by the conclusion of its October 16 meeting, likely will have conducted a public hearing on all other components of the Nordic application. The hearing on traffic will occur at either the November 13 or November 20 Board meeting. Thus, the Board, at its November and December meetings on Nordic, likely will revisit some of the issues on which a public hearing has previously been held, and will begin its deliberations on specific requirements of City Ordinances.

The Planning Board and the Harbor Committee, as noted above, will be conducting one or more public hearings at many of the above identified meetings. Persons who desire to offer comment at any of the respective hearings may do so in one of three ways:

- 1) Oral comment presented at the scheduled public hearing. Oral comment is limited to 10 minutes for Parties in Interest, and 4 minutes for all other persons.
- 2) Written comment to: City of Belfast, Code & Planning Dept, 131 Church St, Belfast, ME, 04915; comment must arrive by 3:00 pm on the date of the scheduled hearing.
- 3) Via email to: public@cityofbelfast.org; comment must be received by 3:00 pm on the date of the scheduled public hearing.

An electronic version of the Nordic permit applications is available on the City website; cityofbelfast.org, reference planning and codes, Nordic Aquafarms Permit link. The Department also has a copy of the application materials available for public review in its offices during normal business hours; Monday - Thursday, 8:00 am - 5:00 pm. Questions regarding the permit applications and the Planning Board schedule and procedures for the upcoming meetings should be directed to Wayne Marshall, Director, Code and Planning at 338-1417 x 125, or via email at public@cityofbelfast.org.

On behalf of the Planning Board,

Wayne Marshall
Director, Code & Planning