

Amendment #8 – Parking of Commercial Vehicles

by Sy Wrenn, Alternate Planning Board Member

In an effort to educate the public on the zoning ordinance amendments that are being recommended by the Planning Board for 2012 Town Meeting, a series of articles will be published leading up to Town Meeting on March 13th. Each article will provide a summary of one or more zoning amendments being proposed.

History: (What is the current status?) Currently a commercial vehicle with a 6,000 GVW (gross vehicle weight) with two axels is allowed to be parked outdoors overnight at a residence in the following districts only: *Residence A, B, C.*

Why: (Is this being proposed?) Allow the outdoor parking of one two axel commercial vehicle in all residential districts and increase the gross vehicle weight to reflect the capacities of today's pick-up trucks and vans. This will allow those working men and women who utilize a truck or van as part of their employment to be legally parked overnight at their residence.

Effect: (If this is passed by the voters) A new Section 704.2.7 will be added to the Zoning Ordinance which will state "At a property whose primary use is residential, there may be the outdoor, overnight parking of one registered and inspected commercial vehicle used by someone living at the property. This commercial vehicle must be less than 12,000 GVW and have no more than two axles."

**Amendment #9 – Definition Section 200 and
Off-Street Parking & Loading Areas Section 704**

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History: (What is the current status?) Currently our definition of a recreational vehicle and our parking regulations are located in the Zoning Ordinance.

Why: (Is this being proposed?) The definition of a recreation vehicle needs to be updated as well as the rules regarding parking and occupancy on residentially zoned properties. The other part of the amendment is to move the off-street parking regulations for commercial properties to the Site Plan Regulations to give the Planning Board the flexibility to waive requirements if the situation warrants.

Effect: (If this is passed by the voters.) The definition of a Recreation Vehicle will be modified to include Recreational Camper. Also the regulations regarding Recreational Vehicles/Recreational Campers are rewritten to clarify where they can be parked on a lot, how long they can be occupied by a resident and under what conditions.

The Off-Street Parking & Loading Areas sections of the Zoning Ordinance for commercial properties will be deleted in their entirety. After this is passed by the voters, the Planning Board will adopt the same regulations as part of the Site Plan Regulations.