

# Town of Lakeville

PLANNING BOARD 346 Bedford Street Lakeville, MA 02347 508-946-8803

### **PEER REVIEW INFORMATION**

#### RULES FOR HIRING OUTSIDE CONSULTANTS UNDER G.L. CH. 44 ss 53G

As provided by GL Ch. 44 ss 53G, the Lakeville Planning Board may impose reasonable fees for the employment of outside consultants, engaged by the Lakeville Planning Board, for specific expert services deemed necessary by the Planning Board to come to a final decision on an application submitted to the Planning Board pursuant to the requirements of any state or municipal statute, By-Law or regulation, as they may be amended or enacted from time to time.

Funds received by the Planning Board pursuant to these rules shall be deposited with the Lakeville Treasurer who shall establish a special account for this purpose. Expenditures from this special account may be made at the direction of the Planning Board without further appropriation as provided in GL Ch. 44 ss 53G. Expenditures from this account shall be made only in connection with the review of a specific project or projects for which a consultant fee has been collected from the applicant.

The consultant shall be chosen by, and report only to the Planning Board.

The fee must be received in its entirety prior to the initiation of consulting services. The Planning Board may request additional consultant fees if necessary if the review requires a larger expenditure than originally anticipated or new information requires additional consultant services. Failure by the applicant to pay the consultant fee specified by the Planning Board within ten (10) days of the request for payment shall be cause for the Planning Board to determine that the applicant is administratively incomplete. The Planning Board shall state such in a letter to the applicant. No additional review or action shall be taken on the permit request until the applicant has paid the requested fee. Failure by the applicant to pay the consultant fee specified by the Planning Board within ten (10) business days of the request for payment shall be cause for the Planning Board to deny the permit application.

The applicant may appeal the selection of the outside consultant to the Select Board, who may disqualify the outside consultant selected only on the grounds that the consultant has a conflict of interest or does not possess the minimum required qualifications. The minimum qualifications shall consist of either an educational degree or three or more years of practice in the field at issue or a related field. Such an appeal must be in writing and received by the Select Board and a copy received by the Planning Board so as to be received within ten (10) days of the date consultant fees were requested by the Planning Board.

Adopted by the Planning Board 12/4/06



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## PEER REVIEW FLOW CHART

Planning Board reviews project Planning Board determines if Peer Review is required Planning Board Staff sends project to Peer Review Consultant for quote Peer Review Consultant sends Planning Board Staff the quote Planning Board Staff sends quote to Applicant for payment Applicant sends payment to Planning Board Staff Planning Board Staff processes payment Planning Board Staff notifies Peer Review Consultant to begin review Peer Review Consultant submits completed review and Invoice to Planning Board Staff Planning Board Staff reschedules project to appear on next Planning Board Agenda Planning Board Staff submits Peer Review Consultant payment request to Town Accountant

Flow Chart Adopted by the Planning Board 10/25/18