

**.DESIGN REVIEW ADVISORY COMMITTEE SPECIAL MEETING**

**February 3, 2022**

**TOWN HALL ANNEX**

**80 DOYLE RD., BANTAM**

The Special meeting was called to order by Chairman, J. Savage at 9:40 a.m.

Members Present: Jeff Savage, Bill Jones, Danielle Restivo and alternate, Carol Bramley.

Absent: alternate Patricia McTague.

Also present: Dr. Tobin, Land Use Administrator, Sam Lee, Volta Charging and Dean Apostoleris, Kimley-Horn

**1. 55 Village Green Dr. – Kimley-Horn – Signage for 2 electric vehicle charging stations in existing curbed island.**

An overview of the two proposed electric vehicle (EV) charging stations with signage in the Stop & Shop parking lot was presented by D. Apostoleris, engineering designer for Kimley-Horn.

The EV charging stations proposed are a convenience for shoppers as more people move to electric vehicles. There is no cost for the charging, advertising pays for the electric use. The electricity to the units is provided by Stop & Shop. S. Lee explained Volta Charging oversees and monitors the units, correcting any issues that arise.

The applicants were asked who determines what advertising is displayed on the units. It was stated advertisements would include Stop & Shop and national brands. The units are 7.5 feet tall and the advertising display area is 48" x 27". Screen hours of operation will be during store hours. During the day, the light display would have a luminance value of 2500 nits, at night it would be 1200. The chargers are not 30 minute – 2hour, long term 480volt, DC fast chargers but are designed with lower power for short term use.

The shown location of the units in islands close to the entrance to the store was questioned. Their placement not only removes two more conveniently located spaces from the general public's use but their size also may obstruct site lines for vehicles and pedestrians maneuvering through the adjacent aisles.

The applicants stated the spaces are not EV charging restricted only. Unlike other marked and designated spaces, anyone can park in the spaces with the chargers. They also stated the location of the chargers was intended to minimize disturbance to the existing landscaped islands, however, they did agree to look at moving the placement further back from the end of the islands to provide greater visibility of vehicles and pedestrians as they exit the adjacent aiseways.

The screens are two sided and the images displayed on the screen are static with no interaction. The display rotates every 8 seconds. The signage is 9 square feet on each side. Dr. Tobin

clarified the calculation of square footage on two sided signs is based on one side, not both. The total square footage of signage proposed for the two charging units would be 18 square feet. There was discussion among committee members as to whether the signage on the chargers should be included in Stop & Shop's overall allowable signage of 100 square feet. With the type of device being new, there is nothing in the zoning sign regulations that addresses their use or size.

D. Apostoleris stated similar issues have been encountered in other Connecticut towns, including Torrington and Vernon. In those cases, Kimley-Horn proposed amendments to those town's regulations, which were adopted. Committee members suggested the applicants consult with Dr. Tobin regarding drafting and submitting an amendment to the Litchfield Planning and Zoning signage regulations to which the applicants agreed.

J. Savage made an unfavorable recommendation, without prejudice, based on the size and signage type not currently included in Litchfield's Zoning regulations, adding the Design Review Advisory Committee recommends the zoning signage section of the regulations be amended to include Electric Vehicle (EV) Chargers. Danielle seconded and the motion was carried with the affirmative votes of D. Restivo, B. Jones and J. Savage.

### **3. Adjournment**

D. Restivo moved and B. Jones seconded a motion to adjourn at 10:40 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.

---

Design Review Advisory Committee

---

Date