AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE COMPOSITION OF THE NEW GLOUCESTER PLANNING BOARD

"Shall an ordinance amending the composition of the New Gloucester Planning Board, and formally establishing guidelines for appointments, terms, rules, and duties" be enacted?

1. Establishment. Pursuant to Art. VIII, pt. 2, Section 1 of the Maine Constitution, the Town of New Gloucester hereby establishes the New Gloucester Planning Board.

2. Appointment

   A. Board members shall be appointed by the municipal officers and sworn by the clerk or other person authorized to administer oaths.

   B. The Board shall consist of seven (7) members.

   C. The term of each member shall be three (3) years, except that the present Board members and alternates shall serve as Planning Board members for the remainder of their appointed terms.

   D. When there is a permanent vacancy, the municipal officers shall within 60 days of its occurrence appoint a person to serve for the unexpired term. A vacancy shall occur upon the resignation or death of any member, or when a member ceases to be a voting resident of the town, or when a member fails to attend four (4) unexcused consecutive regular meetings, or fails to attend at least 75% of all meetings during the preceding twelve (12) month period. When a vacancy occurs, the chairman of the Board shall immediately so advise the municipal officers in writing. The Board may recommend to the Municipal Officers that the attendance provision be waived for cause, in which case no vacancy will then exist until the municipal officers disapprove the recommendation. The municipal officers may remove members of the Planning Board by unanimous vote, for cause, after notice and hearing.

   E. A municipal officer may not be a member.

3. Organization and Rules

   A. The Board shall elect a chairperson and vice chairperson from among its members. The term of all offices shall be one (1) year with eligibility for re-election. The Board may hire a secretary who is not a Planning Board member to keep the minutes.

   B. Any question of whether a member shall be disqualified from voting on a particular matter shall be decided by a majority vote of the members except the

member who is being challenged.

C. The chairman shall call at least one regular meeting of the Board each month.

D. No meeting of the Board shall be held without a quorum consisting of four (4) members authorized to vote. The Board shall act by majority vote, calculated on the basis of the number of members present and voting.

E. The Board shall adopt rules for transaction of business and the secretary shall keep a record of its resolutions, transactions, correspondence, findings and determinations. All records shall be deemed public and may be inspected at reasonable times.

4. Duties; Powers

A. The Board shall prepare or supervise the preparation of a Comprehensive Plan, as defined by 30A MRSA Section 4502.

B. The Board shall perform such duties and exercise such powers as are provided by New Gloucester ordinances, and the laws of the State of Maine.

C. The Board may obtain goods and services necessary to its proper function within the limits of appropriations made for the purpose.

5. Severability and Effective Date:

A. This ordinance shall become effective when adopted by the majority of the voters at any regular or special Town meeting.

If any provision of this ordinance is found by a court of competent jurisdiction to be unenforceable, the remaining provision shall continue in full force and effect.