

**B. NEW BUSINESS (Refer to Planning Board)**

**BARNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL**

**ITEM# 2020-193  
INTRO: 06/18/2020**

**2020-193 ORDER AMENDING CHAPTER 240 ZONING, ARTICLE II, SECTION 7  
ADDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS PERTAINING TO SHORT TERM RENTALS**

**ORDERED** that the Code of the Town of Barnstable, Chapter 240 Zoning, Article II, Section 7, be amended by adding the following subparagraph (J) to Section 240-7:

“J. Short term rentals. Notwithstanding any provisions to the contrary in this Chapter 240, short term rentals shall be permitted within lawful dwelling units in all zoning districts. A short term rental shall be defined as a residential dwelling or any portion of a dwelling rented out through the use of advance reservations, for a fee, for a period of not more than 31 consecutive calendar days, excluding: Cottage Colonies, as defined herein; hotels licensed under M.G.L. Chapter 140, Section 6; motels licensed under M.G.L. Chapter 140, Section 32B; lodging establishments licensed under M.G.L. Chapter 140, Section 23 or under Chapter 506 of the Code of the Town of Barnstable; bed & breakfast establishments or bed & breakfast homes licensed under said Chapter 506. Cottage Colony shall be defined as a group of three or more detached dwellings, legally in existence at the time of adoption of this ordinance, located on a single lot, which are customarily occupied on a seasonal basis. When a property is in use as a short term rental, on-site parking shall not be in any cultivated or landscaped area between a roadway and the part of the principal structure nearest to the roadway.”

**SPONSOR:** Town Council Committee to Review Zoning & Permitting Regulations: Paula K. Schnepf, Chair, Councilor Precinct 12, Britt Beedenbender, Councilor Precinct 4, Kristine Clark, Councilor Precinct 11, Jennifer Cullum, Councilor Precinct 13, Gordon Starr, Councilor Precinct 1

DATE	ACTION TAKEN
_____	_____
_____	_____

- \_\_\_\_\_ Read Item
- \_\_\_\_\_ Motion to Open Public Hearing
- \_\_\_\_\_ Rationale
- \_\_\_\_\_ Public Hearing
- \_\_\_\_\_ Close Public Hearing
- \_\_\_\_\_ Council Discussion
- \_\_\_\_\_ Move/Vote

# BARNSTABLE TOWN COUNCIL

ITEM# 2020-193  
INTRO: 06/18/2020

## SUMMARY

**TO:** Town Council  
**FROM:** Town Council Committee to Review Zoning & Permitting Regulations  
**DATE:** June 12, 2020  
**SUBJECT:** Order amending Chapter 240 Zoning, Article II, Section 7 adding certain provisions pertaining to Short Term Rentals

**RATIONALE:** This proposed amendment to Chapter 240, Zoning, aims to provide a clear understanding of what is permitted in terms of renting a residential dwelling as a Short Term Rental in the Town of Barnstable. Currently, Short Term Rentals are neither expressly permitted nor prohibited in the Town of Barnstable; the use is not addressed in any municipal ordinance. Short Term Rentals are being, and historically have been, operated in all villages in Barnstable. According to the latest data set provided by the Massachusetts Department of Revenue, there are 663 short term rentals currently registered in the Town of Barnstable.

This proposed amendment to the Town's zoning ordinance defines Short Term Rentals in a manner consistent with the Commonwealth in the Short-Term Rental Law (Chapter 337 of the Acts of 2018, revising G.L. c. 64G, Section 3A), which includes Short Term Rentals among the list of establishments subject to the local excise tax. Short Term Rentals are broadly defined as residential dwellings, or portions or dwellings, that are rented out in advance for less than 31 days (including weekly rentals).

The proposed approach to Short Term Rentals is two-fold: a general ordinance to register Short Term Rentals with the Inspectional Services Department and require that certain standards, including life safety standards, are met; and an amendment to the zoning ordinance to recognize Short Term Rentals as an allowed use of a residential dwelling.

This item is a proposed amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to recognize and define Short Term Rentals. Short Term Rentals are defined consistent with the Short-Term Rental Law, as noted above; the definition also includes exclusions, including historical cottage colonies. The amendment also establishes parking standards for the use. Parking is appropriately addressed through zoning, as opposed to a general ordinance.

This proposed amendment to the zoning ordinance was developed with the assistance of consultant groups who provided background research on short term rental operations in Barnstable; meetings with the Centerville, Osterville, West Barnstable, Barnstable, Marston Mills, and Greater Hyannis Civic Associations; and public input at multiple Town Council and Zoning & Regulatory Subcommittee meetings.

A proposed zoning amendment requires referral by the Council to the Planning Board, and a recommendation by the Planning Board to the Town Council. The amendment then must be considered by the Town Council at an advertised public hearing, and requires a two-thirds majority vote for passage.

**STAFF ASSISTANCE:** M. Andrew Clyburn, Assistant Town Manager, Karen Nober, Town Attorney, Charles McLaughlin, Assistant Town Attorney, Brian Florence, Building Commissioner, Elizabeth Jenkins, Planning & Development Director, Paul Wackrow, Senior Planner, Gloria McPherson, Planning & Economic Development Coordinator