03-06-2019 Town Council Meeting Responses to Council Questions

<u>ITEM #1:</u> Environmental Stewardship Advisory Board Request to Modify the Blue Hill Form Based Code to Include a Requirement for Installing Roof-Mounted Solar Energy Systems.

<u>Council Question</u>: Do we know why the ESAB petition is targeting the Blue Hill District in particular? Why not require it (or seek to require it) in all new development?

<u>Staff Response</u>: In December, the ESAB submitted a rooftop solar petition to Council that targets any project seeking a rezoning and special use permit. The Board submitted this petition with the understanding that—in cases of conditional rezonings—a solar energy system can be cited, in part, as the Council's basis for granting a rezoning request by the developer. As staff understands it, the ESAB developed a companion petition for Blue Hill because historically property owners in that area have developed under the existing zoning and do not typically request a conditional rezoning. In summary, the interest behind both the December and March solar petitions is similar; they differ based on the Board's understanding of how zoning tools are commonly used throughout different parts of Town.