Article 1, Introduction

Land use ordinances adopted by the town of Pownal are designed to carry out the policies of the current Comprehensive Plan. The plan is intended to protect the Town’s natural resources and allow for economic development without the loss of rural character. References to federal or state laws, regulations, codes, safety standards etc. shall be based on the most recently updated or amended versions.

**Zoning Ordinance:** Describes the land use districts, allowed uses which may be made of the land in each district and the specific lot requirements. It also outlines enforcement procedures and the role of the Board of Appeals. Administered by the Codes Enforcement Officer and Board of Appeals.

**Subdivision Ordinance:** Describes the manner in which land may be divided into minor or major subdivisions and the design and construction standards for streets. Administered by the Planning Board.

**Single Lot Ordinance:** Describes the manner in which a single lot may be divided from the existing parcel. Administered by the Codes Enforcement Officer.

**Site Plan Review Ordinance:** Regulates the manner in which a site may be changed for construction or development. Administered by the Planning Board.

**Public and Private Road Ordinance:** Provides standards for the design and construction of all new public or private roads and for the substantial reconstruction of existing roads. Administered by the Planning Board, certified by the Codes Enforcement Officer and Road Commissioner.

**Hazardous Materials Control Ordinance:** Prohibits the use, storage and disposal of specific types of hazardous materials. A list of specified prohibited hazardous materials is on file in the town office. Administered by the Codes Enforcement Officer.

**Floodplain Management Ordinance:** Regulates the type of construction allowed in areas identified as special flood hazard zones. To identify a flood hazard zone please consult the Flood Insurance Rate Map available at the town office. Administered by the Codes Enforcement Officer and Planning Board.

**Shoreland Zoning Ordinance:** Establishes shoreland zoning overlay districts adjacent to streams and freshwater wetlands. Shoreland Zoning applies special standards designed to protect sensitive shorelands and water bodies from the impact of land use and development allowed in the underlying zoning district. It is administered by the Planning Board, the Code Enforcement Officer and the Board of Appeals.

**Driveway and Driveway Entrance Ordinance:** Establishes safe access to public and private roads and ensures safe access for emergency vehicles. Administered by the Codes Enforcement Officer and Road Commissioner.

**Wireless Telecommunications Facilities Ordinance:** Provides safe siting with as little impact on surrounding property as possible while providing the best signal possible. Administered by the Planning Board.

**Mobile Home Park Ordinance:** Describes standards for mobile home parks. Administered by the Planning Board and Codes Enforcement Officer.

**Impact Fee Ordinance:** Establishes fees attached to the new construction of or additions to homes and mobile homes, how the fees are to be used and administered. The Select Board are the administrative body.

**Miscellaneous Ordinances and Permits**
The following town ordinances and permit requirements are not included in the Land Use Articles, but are listed here for public awareness and can be found/obtained at the town hall.

**Addressing & Road Naming Ordinance:** Establishes the criteria for the addressing and naming of private roads. The Select Board are the administrative body.

**Animal Control and Welfare Ordinance:** Describes the criteria and requirements for the keeping of animals. Administered by the Animal Control Officer appointed by the Select Board.

**Cable Television Ordinance:** Establishes criteria for the construction, operation and maintenance of cable television in town. Administered by the Select Board.

**Electrical Permits Ordinance:** Grants authority to the Select Board to establish a permit fee schedule for electrical systems. Administered by the Codes Enforcement Officer.

**Emergency Management Ordinance:** Establishes an Emergency Management Agency for response and organization of all emergency functions other than military.

**Fire and Rescue Ordinance:** Defines the powers and duties of the Fire & Rescue Dept. and its chief and provides legal protection to the department’s personnel.

**Mass Gathering Ordinance:** Defines the parameters under which gatherings of 500 or more people must comply. Administered by the Pownal Fire & Rescue Department and the Cumberland County Sheriff’s Officer.

**Plumbing Systems Ordinance:** Grants authority to the Select Board to establish a permit fee schedule for plumbing and waste water disposal systems. Administered by the Codes Enforcement Officer.

**Poultry Spreading or Fish Processing Plant Refuse Ordinance:** Establishes a ban and fine for violation for the disposal of any waste or fertilizer from poultry or fish plants or establishments. Administered by the Select Board.

**Right-of-Way Ordinance & Excavation in Public Right of Ways:** Regulates the excavation, restoration and maintenance of public Right-of-Ways, establishes fees and charges. Administered by the Road Commissioner.

**Solid Waste Collection Ordinance:** Governs the collection of household waste and recycling materials. Administered by the Select Board.

**Solid Waste Disposal Ordinance:** provides rules and regulations for the disposal of solid waste. Administered by the Select Board.

**Stop Sign Ordinance:** Establishes four-way stop signs posted at the intersection of Lawrence and Fickett Roads in North Pownal. Administered by the Select Board and Road Commissioner.

**Ordinance for Keeping Swine:** Establishes as unlawful, and subsequent fine, in the keeping of swine to feed garbage, swill or other obnoxious material gathered from this or any other municipality. Administered by the Select Board.

**General Assistance Ordinance:** Adopts the state’s guidelines for general assistance. Annually adopted and overseen by the Select Board.