

Palmer Planning Board

Planning Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 8, 2019

I. Call To Order

Chairman Michael Marciniac called the meeting to order at 7:01PM on Monday, April 8, 2019, in the Town Administrative Building, Planning Department Office. Present were members N. Czech, Paul Burns-Johnson and Tom Skowyr. Kathy Burns was absent. Also present, Town Planner Linda Leduc and Gillian Davis recording minutes.

II. Public Hearing

7:00 –BWC Dumplin Brook LLC –L22 Sykes Street, Continued from November 26, 2018, January 7, 2019, and February 23, 2019.

M. Marciniac explained, Attorney Tom Reidy of Bacon\Wilson submitted a letter requesting to withdraw without prejudice from the application, which was presented to the Board and a motion to accept the request was made on March 25, 2019. He continued, before the withdrawal letter was submitted the meeting was continued to tonight's meeting.

A motion to accept the withdrawal without prejudice was made by N. Czech, seconded by P. Burns-Johnson. The motion passed (4:0).

III. New Business

Baptist Hill Letter- Replacement Plantings

Laura Lefebvre, PE of TRC Companies Inc. was present on behalf of DG Solar Lessee II, LLC.

M. Marciniac gave a brief explanation, during a winter site visit with Michael Butler of Terraform Power, there were issues regarding plantings on the site.

L. Lefebvre stated the original plan included 16 Scotch Pines along the northern property boundary. The new proposed plan is to replace existing, dead, and missing plants with 16 Black Spruces along the northern property boundary. She went on, TRC understands that the Planning Board and adjacent property owners request that an alternative plant be considered that is less susceptible to being impacted by deer.

L. Leduc asked what will happen to the existing Scotch Pines that are healthy. She asked if there could be a double row to include the existing healthy Pines, as well as the new Spruce.

A motion to allow TRC to amend the plan and will add them in as an as-built, was made by P. Burns-Johnson, seconded by N. Czech. The motion passed (4:0).

Passenger Rail Letter and Charrette Summary

L. Leduc explained a letter was sent to Senator Gobi, detailing the synopsis of the Passenger Rail Charrette which took place on March 19th, 2019. She continued, this letter has been distributed to twenty-one surrounding communities Planning Boards, Town Administrators, Board of Selectmen, and Town Planners, looking for support and feedback.

A motion was made to acknowledge receipt of the Charrette letter by P. Burns-Johnson, seconded by T. Skowrya. The motion passed (4:0).

Mirick O'Connell Letter

The Board received letters from Mirick O'Connell regarding Robinson Road earth removal.

A motion to acknowledge receipt was made by P. Burns-Johnson, seconded by N. Czech. The motion passed (4:0).

Meeting Minutes from March 25, 2019

A motion to approve meeting minutes as amended was made by P. Burns-Johnson, seconded by T. Skowrya. The motion passed (3:0:1). N. Czech abstained.

7:15 – BWC Swift River LLC, 3090 Palmer Road, Continued from November 26, 2018, January 7, 2019, and February 23, 2019.

M. Marciniac read a letter submitted by Attorney Tom Reidy, received April 8th, 2019, requesting a continuance to the April 22, 2019, meeting.

M. Marciniac stated the applicants still need to apply for a Special Permit under section 171.69, due to the site being located in the Aquifer Protection District. He said the Board has yet to receive that application.

A motion to continue the public hearing for BWC Swift River to the April 22, 2019 meeting was made by N. Czech, seconded by T. Skowrya. The motion passed (4:0).

Abutting Town Notices and Monthly Interest Allocation Report were distributed.

Town Planner Update:

L. Leduc mentioned at the last Planning Board meeting, March 25th, Mr. and Mrs. Rohan of 274 Breckenridge St. asked to speak with the Planning Board regarding their issues with the solar project by Borrego Solar at 271 Breckenridge St.

L. Leduc explained to the Rohan's, their comments needed to be submitted in writing to Bonnie Weeks, Building Inspector and Zoning Enforcement Officer, as well as, copying her.

L. Leduc went over emails received from the Rohan's as well as a response sent to Bonnie Weeks, including the Borrego team, Angela Panaccione, Conservation Agent, DPW Director, and Planning Board Chairman.

A. Panaccione stated in her response that the issue stems from the original demolition of the house previously located on the property. The house and original U-shaped driveway was built on filled-

in wetlands, which was not apparent until demolition. During this demolition, wetlands were dug up and disrupted. There was a large dry well that captured run-off that was removed and filled with dirt. This has resulted in excessive ground water seeping across the driveway and down the access road onto Breckenridge Street. It's partially stormwater, but mostly ground water. She believes the runoff issues are exasperated by stormwater flows, but the root cause is, not a result of improper stormwater BMP installations. In fact, Borrego has dug the basin at the end of the road several times larger than what was originally proposed and added a rip rap swale and check dams along the access road to dissipate the flow and help with infiltration. Additionally, Borrego has a third party stormwater consultant that does weekly SWPPPs and they send them to her directly.

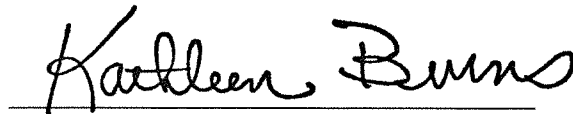
A. Panaccione lastly explained, the safest alternative would be to remove the sediment trap basin at the end of the access road all together and tie directly into the Towns drainage system, since it is going into the system as is and has been prior to the solar installation. This would keep water off the road and would eliminate the hazard of the detention pond at the end of the access road.

N. Czech questioned how people can tell the trucks over the bridge are over the weight limit.

There was general discussion of ownership and enforcement of the bridge.

V. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 7:40pm was made by P. Burns-Johnson, seconded T. Skowyra. The motion passed (4:0).

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen Burns". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Kathleen Burns, Clerk