



Town of Hopkinton

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HOPKINTON PLANNING BOARD MINUTES MARCH 2, 2016

Chairman Bruce Ellsworth opened the Hopkinton Planning Board meeting of **Wednesday, March 2, 2016, at 6:30 PM** in the Hopkinton Town Hall. Members present: Cettie Connolly, Timothy Britain, Celeste Hemingson, and Alternate James Fredyma. Members absent: Vice Chairman Michael Wilkey, Ex-Officio James O'Brien, Jane Bradstreet and Alternates Clarke Kidder and Richard Steele. Staff present: Planning Director Karen Robertson.

Chairman Ellsworth declared a quorum present.

I. Review of the Minutes and Notice of Decision of December 8, 2015 and January 12, 2016.

Cettie Connolly, seconded by Celeste Hemingson, moved to **APPROVE** the Minutes of December 8, 2015 as presented. Motion carried unanimously in favor (Connolly, Britain, Hemingson, Fredyma).

Cettie Connolly, seconded by James Fredyma, moved to **APPROVE** the Notice of Decision of December 8, 2015 as presented. Motion carried unanimously in favor (Connolly, Britain, Hemingson, Fredyma).

Cettie Connolly, seconded by James Fredyma, moved to **APPROVE** the Minutes of January 12, 2016 with a correction on page six, paragraph five, which incorrectly indicated that Mrs. Hemingson was in favor of approving the application when in fact, she voted in opposition. With four members voting, three voted in favor (Connolly, Hemingson, Fredyma) and one voted in abstention (Britain).

Cettie Connolly, seconded by James Fredyma, moved to **APPROVE** the Notice of Decision of January 12, 2016 with a correction on page four, paragraph two, which incorrectly indicated that Mrs. Hemingson was in favor of approving the application when in fact, she voted in opposition. With four members voting, three voted in favor (Connolly, Hemingson, Fredyma) and one voted in abstention (Britain).

II. Conceptual Consultations.

There were no conceptual consultations.

III. Applications. (*Public hearing will immediately follow if the application(s) is/are accepted as complete.*)

- 1. Lot line Adjustment/Annexation Application #2016-02**, John Madden and Nathanael Slater on behalf of themselves and Katrina Richardson outlined their intentions to subdivide and annex 1.72 acres of Lot 4 (Richardson) to Lot 7 (Slater) and

Subject to review and approval.

the remaining 1.75 acres of Lot 4 (Richardson) to Lot 3 (Madden), located on the west side of Briar Hill Road, Tax Map 242, Lots 3, 4 and 7, R-4 District.

Timothy Britain, seconded by Celeste Hemingson, moved to **ACCEPT** application #2016-02 as complete and for consideration. Motion carried unanimously in favor (Connolly, Britain, Hemingson and Fredyma).

Chairman Ellsworth opened and closed the public hearing portion of the meeting as there was no public comment.

Timothy Britain, seconded by Cettie Connolly, moved to **APPROVE** application #2016-02 as presented. Motion carried unanimously in favor (Connolly, Britain, Hemingson and Fredyma).

2. **Trimming and Removal of Trees and Brush along Scenic Roads, Application #2016-03**, Public Hearing, pursuant to NH RSA 231:158. Eversource Arborist Brian Salas addressed the Board concerning proposed work by Eversource Energy to trim and remove trees and brush adjacent to, over, and beneath its power lines along the following designated scenic roads: Barton Corner Rd, Beech Hill Rd, Brockway Rd, Clement Hill Rd, College Hill Rd, Hatfield Rd, Moran Rd, Old Putney Hill Rd, Patch Rd, Pet Dow Rd, and Thain Road. Eversource will remove all brush and limbs less than four (4) inches in diameter which are located within eight (8) feet to the side, ten (10) feet below, or fifteen (15) feet above conductors. All work will be done by Asplundh Tree Expert Company.

Mrs. Hemingson questioned whether property owners had been notified of the work to be done. She noted that Binney Wells, owner of property off Hatfield, Moran and Pet Dow roads, had informed her that she was not aware of the proposal. In response, Mr. Salas explained the process by which notification by mail is sent to all owners that may be affected. There is space on the notice in which the property owner can indicate that they wish to discuss the work, prior to any cutting. Additionally, there is a telephone number provided should the property owner wish to call, rather than completing and returning the notice. Mr. Salas indicated that he would follow-up with Mrs. Wells before work is done in front of her properties.

Mr. Salas noted offered to coordinate any request of the Town's Public Works Department to remove hazardous trees. However, permission for the Public Works Department to remove trees would need to be granted by the Planning Board at this hearing. In response, Chairman Ellsworth thanked Mr. Salas for his offer, and noted that any request to be made by the Town will be considered by the Planning Board at a separate hearing.

Cettie Connolly, seconded by Celeste Hemingson, moved to **APPROVE** application #2016-03, subject to notification by Eversource Energy to Binney Wells, owner of property off Hatfield, Moran and Thain roads. Motion carried unanimously in favor (Connolly, Britain, Hemingson and Fredyma).

IV. Any other business that may legally come before the Board.

- a. **Voluntary Merger of Pre-Existing Lots** in accordance with the provisions of NH RSA 674:30-a, owned by Kenneth B. Miller, Eagle Lane, Tax Map 225, Lots 106 and 107.

Cettie Connolly, seconded by Timothy Britain, moved to **APPROVE** the merger as submitted. Motion carried unanimously (Connolly, Britain, Hemingson and Fredyma).

V. Adjournment.

Chairman Bruce Ellsworth declared the meeting **ADJOURNED** at 7:20 PM. The next regular scheduled meeting of the Hopkinton Planning Board is at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at the Hopkinton Town Hall.

Karen Robertson
Planning Director

In accordance with RSA 677:15, any person(s) aggrieved by any decision of the Planning Board concerning application(s) may present to the Superior Court a petition, duly verified, setting forth that such a decision is illegal or unreasonable in whole or part and specifying the grounds upon which the same is claimed to be illegal or unreasonable. Such petition shall be presented to the court within thirty (30) days after the Board's final decision regarding the application in question has been filed and becomes available for public inspection in the Planning Office.