



Town of Hopkinton

Planning Department

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HOPKINTON PLANNING BOARD

MINUTES

JUNE 9, 2020

Members present: Chairman Bruce Ellsworth (late), Vice Chairman Michael Wilkey, Ex-Officio Anna Wells, James Fredyma, Celeste Hemingson, Jane Bradstreet, and Alternates Clarke Kidder and Gregory Sagris. Members absent: Rich Steele, and Alternate Timothy Britain. Staff present: Planning Director Karen Robertson.

- I. Call to Order.** Vice-Chairman Wilkey called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Due to the COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis and per Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12, under Executive Order 2020-04, the Planning Board is authorized to meet electronically.

A roll call was taken with all members announcing that there was no one else in the room with them at the time.

Chairman Ellsworth joined the meeting.

II. Review of Meeting Minutes and Notice of Decision of May 12, 2020.

Anna Wells, seconded by Clarke Kidder, moved to **APPROVE** the Minutes and Notice of Decision of May 12, 2020, as presented. Motion carried unanimously by Roll Call: Wilkey - yes, Wells - yes, Fredyma – yes, Hemingson – yes, Ellsworth – yes, and Kidder - yes. Mrs. Bradstreet abstained.

III. Conceptual Consultations. There were no conceptual consultations.

IV. Applications.

Application #2020-06, Forestry supervisor Chris Moultroup of Unitil addressed the Board to request permission to perform maintenance pruning and potentially hazard tree removal on overhead distribution lines along the following designated scenic roads: Brockway Road and Branch Londonderry Turnpike. The request was pursuant to NH RSA 231:158.

Mr. Moultroup advised that all work will be completed by Lucas Tree Service, and will involve pruning up to 15 feet above and 10 feet below and to the sides of the utility lines. Any hazardous trees will be marked in advance by white and red ribbons.

While property owners along the circuit were sent notice of the meeting, Lucas will reach out to property owners requesting permission to prune or remove trees.

Mr. Kidder inquired about the time frame in which work will begin. Mr. Moultroup

Approved: 07/14/2020

anticipated work to start within the next couple of months.

Chairman Ellsworth questioned whom to call if a property owner is dissatisfied with the work. Mr. Moultroup noted that calls could be made to Unitil's customer service, which will then be referred to him.

Clarke Kidder, seconded by Anna Wells, moved to **ACCEPT** Application #2020-06 as complete and for consideration. Motion carried unanimously in the affirmative by Roll Call: Wilkey - yes, Wells - yes, Fredyma – yes, Hemingson – yes, Bradstreet – yes, Ellsworth – yes, Kidder – yes, and Bradstreet.

Chairman Ellsworth opened and closed the public portion of the meeting as there was no one from the public present wishing to give testimony.

Celeste Hemingson, seconded by Jane Bradstreet, moved to **APPROVE** Application #2020-06 as presented. Motion carried unanimously in the affirmative by Roll Call: Wilkey - yes, Wells - yes, Fredyma – yes, Hemingson – yes, Bradstreet – yes, Ellsworth – yes, Kidder – yes, and Bradstreet.

V. Other Business.

- (a) Mrs. Robertson will provide an outline of possible zoning amendments to be considered for March 2021.
- (b) Mr. Kidder accepted an invitation to serve on the Central NH Regional Planning Commission's (CNHRPC) Executive Council.
- (c) Mrs. Robertson reported that CNHRPC's Executive Director Mike Tardiff will meet with the Board at the July meeting to discuss the Master Plan update.

VI. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 6:39 PM. The next regular scheduled meeting of the Planning Board is scheduled for 6:00 PM on Tuesday, July 14, 2020.

Karen Robertson
Planning Director

Note: Due to the COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis and in accordance with Governor Sununu's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, the Board was authorized to meet electronically. There was no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to the meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order. In accordance with the Emergency Order, public access to the meeting by video and telephone was provided. All members of the Board had the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through the Zoom platform, and the public had access to contemporaneously listen and, if interested, participate in the meeting through the website: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84286382534> or by dialing the following phone # 1-646-558-8656 and using Meeting ID: 84286382534. A mechanism for the public to alert the Board during the meeting if there were problems with access was provided.