



Town of Hopkinton

330 Main Street • Hopkinton, New Hampshire 03229 • www.hopkinton-nh.gov

Tel: 603-746-3170

Fax: 603-746-3049

HOPKINTON PLANNING BOARD

MINUTES MAY 8, 2018

Members present: Chairman Bruce Ellsworth, Vice Chairman Michael Wilkey, Celeste Hemingson, James Fredyma and Clarke Kidder. Absent: Rich Steele, Ex-Officio Sabrina Dunlap, Jane Bradstreet and Alternate Timothy Britain. Staff present: Planning Director Karen Robertson.

- I. **Call to Order.** Chairman Bruce Ellsworth called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM in the Hopkinton Town Hall. Due to the absence of regular members, Mr. Kidder was designated as a voting member.
- II. **Review of the Minutes of April 10, 2018.** Michael Wilkey, seconded by James Fredyma, motioned to **APPROVE** the Minutes of April 10, 2018 as presented. With five members voting, four voted in favor (Wilkey, Fredyma, Kidder and Ellsworth) and one voted in abstention (Hemingson).
- III. **Conceptual Consultations.** There were no conceptual consultations.
- IV. **Applications.**

John Herrick (#2018-4), Application of John Herrick, on behalf of Excalibur Shelving Systems, Inc., and Herrick Millwork, Inc., for Excavation of approximately 5.95 acres on properties at 290 and 292 Burnham Intervale Road in the M-1 (industrial) district, Tax Map 220 Lots 23.1 and 23.2.

Tim Bernier of T.F. Bernier, Inc. presented on behalf of the Applicant. Mr. Bernier presented plans of the proposal to excavate approximately 32,000 cubic yards of sand and gravel from an area of approximately 5.95 acres that straddles the lot line between Lots 23.1 and 23.2. All storm water is to be contained within the site, so that there is no off-site storm flow expected. Once the excavation is completed, the area will be loamed and seeded as referenced on the plans presented.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment, at their January 2, 2018 meeting, granted a Special Exception for the excavation. An application under NH RSA 155-E had been submitted to the NHDES Alternation of Terrain Bureau for review.

The plan presented showed a site elevation difference between Lots 23.1 and 23.2. The proposal is to mine material, approximately 5-feet in depth, so that the elevation of the lots is the same. The area is outside of the Special Flood Hazard Zone.

Mr. Herrick anticipated beginning the excavation during the summer with an estimated five trucks per day. The size of the trucks will range in size with the largest truck being an 18-wheeler.

Mrs. Hemingson inquired about the truck traffic. Mr. Herrick explained that he had sold a part of his cable reel business, which no longer operates from the property, and had combined the operations of Herrick Millwork and Excalibur. As a result, Mr. Herrick estimated that there had been a reduction of approximately 20 trucks per day.

While there will be a watering truck on-site to address any concerns with dust, the material has very little fine material, so dust should be minimal.

In calculating the length of time of the project, Mr. Bernier estimated that with five trucks per day the project will be finished in approximately 3-years. While they can complete the project in a shorter time, it would require more trucks trips per day.

Mr. Herrick reiterated that once the excavation is completed the area will remain gravel and used for storage of lumber or will become a field.

Clarke Kidder, seconded by Michael Wilkey, motioned to **ACCEPT** Application #2018-04 as complete and for consideration. Motion carried unanimously in the affirmative.

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

Mrs. Hemingson questioned whether the Conservation Commission was made aware of the application. Mrs. Robertson replied yes.

Discussion ensued concerning the possibility of having the Applicant come back before the Board, at a later date, to provide an update on the project. It was noted that some communities require an annual update and others require an update after so many years.

When discussing whether the Excavation Permit should include an expiration date, Mr. Herrick preferred no expiration as the sale of the material will depend upon the market. As an alternative, he agreed to come back before Board, periodically, with an update on the project.

Following discussion, the Board agreed that a reclamation bond would not be necessary as there is really nothing to be reclaimed. The area will revert back to being used for lumber storage or will become a field.

Lastly, Mr. Bernier explained how the disturbed areas will be pitched in a way to absorb storm water.

Michael Wilkey, seconded by Celeste Hemingson, motioned to **APPROVE** Application #2018-04 with the following conditions:

- a) The Applicant shall receive a NH DES Alteration and Terrain Permit per RSA 155:E;
- b) The hours of operation shall be 6:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday;
- c) The maximum of 6-trucks per day is allowed in the removal of the gravel (sand);
- d) The Applicant is to provide an update as to the status of the project at the end of 3-years, and
- e) The excavation of the 5.95 acres, that straddles Lots 23.1 and 23.2, shall be reclaimed so that the grade is the same for both lots.

Motion carried unanimously in the affirmative (Wilkey, Fredyma, Kidder, Hemingson and Ellsworth).

V. Master Plan Transportation Chapter

The Central NH Regional Planning Commission's Executive Director, Michael Tardiff, gave a brief update concerning the work to date on the Transportation Chapter. When considering the location of potential safety and speed areas, there were two areas of concern: Intersection of Route 202/9 and 103 in Hopkinton Village and intersection of I-89, Exit 4 off ramp and Route 202/9. It was noted that the area where the Exit 4 off ramp meets Route 202/9 was originally designed in 1956. Following identification of these areas, a consulting engineering had prepared plans to show suggested improvements to the intersections.

Briefly, the Board reviewed the concept plans showing a t-intersection in Hopkinton Village and a round-about at the intersection of Exit 4 and Route 202/9. The Planning Board supported both concept plans to be included in the Transportation Chapter. While the round-about is would be a State funded improvement, it should be recommended for inclusion in the NH DOT's 10-year plan. The improvements to the Hopkinton Village intersection, that will require minimal changes, would be an expense paid by the Town. Currently, the Commission is waiting for cost estimates from the consulting engineer.

VI. Other Business.

- a) Reference Guide – Mrs. Robertson provided a cross-reference of sections in the Zoning Ordinance and uses listed in the Table of Uses.

VII. Adjournment. Chairman Ellsworth declared the meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM. The next regular scheduled meeting of the Hopkinton Planning Board is at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, June 12, 2018 at the Hopkinton Town Hall.

Karen Robertson
Planning Director