

Minutes for Tuesday, November 19, 2019 Planning Board Meeting

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:04 PM.

2. Introduction of Attendees: Present were Planning Board (PB) Members: David Johnson (Chair), Laura Chadbourne (Secretary), Melanie Eldracher, and Morris Gibely. Alternate member Bill Graham also attended. Absent: Member Kevin Taylor and Alternate Member Ron Kiesman. In accordance with the PB By-laws, Bill Graham was designated by the PB to serve as a voting PB Member in the absence of Kevin Taylor. **Code Enforcement Officer (CEO)** Arthur Dunlap also attended.

3. Minutes from the October 15, 2019 Meeting: The minutes were reviewed by the group. Melanie Eldracher moved and Morris Gibely seconded the acceptance of the minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

4. CEO's Report for October 2019:

CEO reviewed the report with the PB. CEO noted that for new timber harvesting permits, he is now advising permittees to read and understand the town's Zoning and Land Use Ordinance before undertaking timber harvesting activities.

Laura Chadbourne moved and Melanie Eldracher seconded the acceptance of the CEO's report; the motion passed unanimously.

5. Communication & Bills

A. Correspondence Received and Sent (by date)

1. Ltrs (emails) from Aimee Heath dated 11-5-2019 to 11-6-2019 to and from PB Secretary Laura Chadbourne (Map U-01, Lot 2). Ms. Heath reached out inquiring how to start a permit for a dock and that CEO had said to contact PB Secretary. Secretary noted that Ms. Heath would need to fill out a building permit application for the proposed dock and work with the CEO on a Conditional Use Permit application which then needs to be submitted to the PB.

6. Old Business:

- A. Board members brought up questions about the town's new Volunteer Policy adopted by the BOS in September. For instance, does the policy apply to the town's volunteer firefighters? One PB member noted that his wife volunteers for the Sweden Food Pantry and was notified about the new Volunteer Policy, but that when she spoke with the town's Administrative Assistant (AA) about what she had to do to comply, the AA stated that the policy did not apply to her and so she didn't need to take any action. PB members are not aware of any cases where the Volunteer Policy has in fact been applied, so why was it created?

- B. PB reviewed the newsletter updates from Southern Maine Planning and Development Commission. One item does impact the town which is a state level change to subdivision regulations. Mylar copies of the final subdivision plans are no longer required. Secretary noted this change to take away as an update to the next iteration of the Town of Sweden Subdivision Regulations (no timeframe set at this time, but being aware of the change and

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allowing applicants to submit on paper rather than mylar will suffice until the next update to the town's regulations).

- C. PB again discussed this risk which has been brought up with the PB as well as to the BOS multiple times. The town's Zoning and Land Use Ordinance (ZLU) no longer complies with state law, putting the town at legal risk. The PB requested funding via the BOS months ago to hire professional help to update the ZO but was refused. David Johnson made a motion for the Planning Board to solicit bids from qualified organizations and/or individuals to advise and assist the PB with updates to the ZLU which would inform the amount needed for a warrant article for the next town meeting in order for the town to fund the ZLU update work. Laura Chadbourne seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

7. New Business:

- A. David Johnson was contacted by the Lovell Land Trust organization's new director. The organization's director would like to come to a future Planning Board meeting to present information about the organization. PB members agreed they would welcome the presentation and information. David will contact them and plan to a visit to a regular PB meeting after the first of the year, perhaps January or February.

8. Announcements:

- A. The next regular Meeting will be on Tuesday, December 17, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the Sweden Town Office.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The Chair adjourned the meeting at 7:58 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Laura Chadbourne,
Secretary, Sweden Planning Board