

PLANNING BOARD

January 20, 2022

MEMORIAL BUILDING

7:00 P.M.

Board Members Present: Tim, Bryan, Ken, Darrin, Mike, Peter, and Amy Whit Smith, John Trachy, and Alex Belenz

Minutes: Clarification of Minutes from January to include the discussion revolved around driveways and curb cuts on town roads regarding possible disturbance of wetlands located in or near the area to be disturbed.

Discussion moved to if there was any way to be notified when the driveway/curb cut was occurring on a state road. Tim asked Alex if he thought the Town had any standing in what the State does regarding determining driveway locations of which Alex did not think so. Alex will investigate what other towns do if anything. Springfield falls under District 2 which is based in Enfield, Ken volunteered to talk with John Barrow who is at the State Shed in New London for information only and Alex will get contact info for those in Enfield the Board would reach out to. The concern that a new driveway and/or curb cut is a change in land use which should give the town some say. Further investigation is needed.

Tim and/or Mike would like to be notified when an application is received so they may visit the location with Peter Abair and give an opinion on whether there are wetlands in or near the location and if there might be a better location.

Tim moved to accept minutes as amended of January 20, 2022, Ken seconded, Board passed with Peter abstaining due to being absent.

Noise Ordinance:

Mike brought up his opinion of the possibility of “Grandfathering” businesses that have been in town and have been “neighborly” as far as noise, and other situations while others that have not would be treated differently. A legal opinion is needed if that is a possibility legally. Tamara will reach out to Town Counsel for a determination.

Applications/Forms:

Dan has these and is currently working to update them. With his absence at the meeting the Board chose to not work on any updates. Tim referred to the flowchart for whether a business is a Home Occupation or a Home Business that Leigh Callaway produced a few years ago. The flow chart reads “Are there more than 4 visits per day?” in both places. He was confused by the wording for the number of trips a day. 5.10.c states shall not generate traffic which is excessive for the road providing access and 5.10.I will generate no more than an average of four customer/client/delivery/service visits per day.

Whit reported that he uses the flowsheet often and finds it works well for applicants that have difficulty understanding the Ordinance.

Tamara will scan and email the flow chart to Alex for formatting.

Tamara will locate a plan submitted by Clayton Platt for the Board to use as a basis for what the Board would like to see when an application is submitted.

The Board would like all applications to include a statement authorizing the Select Board, Zoning Board, Planning Board members and/or designated party to enter and traverse the property listed on the application.

To Do:

- Tamara will scan and email flow chart to Alex for formatting.
- Tamara will locate a plan submitted by Clayton Platt to use as a demo for future applications.
- Tamara will reach out to Town Counsel concerning Noise Ordinance questions.
- Tim and/or Mike will visit driveway/curb cut locations with Peter Abair.
- Alex with forward to the Board contact info for the State Shed in Enfield.

Meeting adjourned 8:15 p.m.

Tamara Butcher