



Town of Merrimack, New Hampshire

Community Development Department

6 Baboosic Lake Road

Town Hall - Lower level - East Wing

Planning - Zoning - Economic Development - Conservation

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MERRIMACK PLANNING BOARD APPROVED MINUTES TUESDAY, AUGUST 15, 2017

Planning Board members present: Robert Best, Alastair Millns, Tom Koenig, Michael Redding, and Alternates Nelson Disco and Paul McLaughlin.

Planning Board members absent: Lynn Christensen, Desirea Falt and Vincent Russo.

Staff present: Planning and Zoning Administrator Robert Price.

1. Call to Order

Robert Best called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and designated Nelson Disco and Paul McLaughlin to sit for Lynn Christensen and Desirea Falt.

2. Planning & Zoning Administrator's Report

The Planning Board offered their thanks and appreciation to Jillian Harris, who has accepted a position with another community. They also offered their congratulations to Robert Price, who was promoted into the Planning and Zoning Administrator position.

3. William Lastowka (applicant) and Land of Goshen, LLC. (owner) — Continued review for consideration of final approval of a Subdivision Plan for a twelve lot cluster subdivision. The parcel is located at 6 Watkins Road in the R-1 (Residential) and Aquifer Conservation Districts and Wellhead Protection Area. Tax Map 4C, Lot 449. *This item is continued from the June 20th and July 18th, 2017 Planning Board meetings.*

Robert Best stated that the applicant submitted an email requesting a continuance to September 5, 2017 to allow them additional time to revise the plans based on comments received from the Town's peer review consultant.

At the applicant's request, the Board voted 6-0-0 to continue this item to September 5, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., in the Matthew Thornton Meeting Room, on a motion made by Alastair Millns and seconded by Michael Redding.

4. Brett W. Vaughn (applicant) and Brett W. Vaughn Revocable Trust (owner) — Review for consideration of final approval of a 13 lot residential subdivision. The parcel is located at 123 Wilson Hill Road in the R-1 (Residential) District.

Tax Map 4A, Lot 023. *This item is continued from the July 18th, 2017 Planning Board meeting.*

Robert Best stated that the applicant submitted an email requesting a continuance to September 5, 2017 to allow them additional time to revise the plans based on comments received from the Town's peer review consultant.

At the applicant's request, the Board voted 6-0-0 to continue this item to September 5, 2017, at 7:00 p.m., in the Matthew Thornton Meeting Room, on a motion made by Alastair Millns and seconded by Michael Redding.

5. Discussion/possible action regarding other items of concern

Robert Best stated that several Planning Board members attended the August 14, 2017 School Board meeting at their invitation. The purpose of the meeting was for the School Board to discuss a Planning Board request made during last year's Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) process to explore the viability of creating a new SAU office by expansion to Merrimack High School, since doing so would incur some cost. He explained that the Planning Board's main concern was that the idea was at least given reasonable consideration.

Tom Koenig noted he has seen a number of signs displaying variable messages faster than allowed by Town regulations. Robert Price explained that the Town's policy is that a service request form is needed to trigger a staff investigation.

The Board entered into a brief discussion about continuance requests from applicants, touching specifically on when there is little or nothing else scheduled on that particular agenda, and when there is a pattern of consecutive requests. The Board also expressed frustration when applicants bring new information or plans to the meeting without anyone having had the opportunity to review them beforehand. Robert Best stated he felt it might make sense to develop a policy about these items, but also felt hesitant because he did not want to create a perception of being unfair in response to the actions of a few.

6. Approval of Minutes – July 18, 2017

The minutes of July 18, 2017, were approved as submitted, by a vote of 5-0-1, on a motion made by Alastair Millns and seconded by Paul McLaughlin. Tom Koenig abstained.

7. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:19 p.m., by a vote of 6-0-0, on a motion made by Alastair Millns and seconded by Michael Redding.