

**PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC MEETING
TOWN OF LITCHFIELD**

Held on February 21, 2017

minutes approved on 3/7/2017

The Litchfield Planning Board held a meeting in the Town Hall conference room 2 Liberty Way, Litchfield, NH 03052 on Tuesday, February 21, at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Young (Chairman), Matt Shoemaker (Vice-Chairman) Steve Perry (Selectmen's Rep.), Russ Blanchette, Kimberly Queenan, Mike Croteau, Tyler Perrin (alternate), Joe Blanchette, (alternate)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Dave Samuel

ALSO PRESENT: Joan McKibben (P.B. Admin. Assistant), Jen Czysz (Assistant Director NRPC), Kevin Lynch, Code Enforcement/Building Inspector

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Young called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tyler Perrin (alternate) is appointed as a voting member.

Roll call vote of members.

Public Input: No Public input on non-agenda items.

Pennichuck East Utility Merrimack River Water Crossing and Water Intake Project

John Boisvert, engineer for Pennichuck Water and Dave Cedarholm, P.E. representing Tighe & Bond Engineers are present to explain the two projects. This is an informational meeting.

There are several reasons behind the Pennichuck Water and Pennichuck East interconnect from west to east.

- According to rules established by Dept. of Environmental Services (DES) the utility has to meet the daily demands of the users.
- There are issues related to the Darrah Pond aquifer that show documented declines they would have to rely less on the two wells near that aquifer.
- This would be some insurance if there was a spill at one of the other sources.
- The ongoing drought in the region is cause for concern.
- The expansion in north Litchfield due to the PFOA problem has 400 households with new water service.

They will directional bore on the banks and thru river sediment, when the pipe gets to ledge it will be on bed bottom. The pipe will be six feet above the river bed bottom covered with cement mats for the section that will be on the bed bottom then come up thru the bank on the Litchfield side. On the Litchfield side they will be coming up at the USFW site that was a former Salmon smolt facility then running the pipe north then east towards Talent Road.

The other long-term capital project is the water intake project. Currently they have an intake pipe close to the west side shore that is hard to sustain because it catches a lot of sediment.

Dave Cedarholm showed the high resolution bathymetric survey of the river that shows depth and type of the river bottom. There was a data point every inch but they plotted every three inches for mapping purposes. They have located the best location for the 42" intake pipe toward the center of the river.

The time frame will be 2017 for the crossing water line, they hope to have water running thru the pipe by December. They only have a five week window in July and August to work in the river when fish are not migrating.

The intake pipe will be a 2018 project. The intake pipe will be 20' deep. Even with a record low river level there would still be 10' above the intake pipe.

Steve Perry: Could you shut down the wells near Darrah Pond with just that connection (interconnection from the west)?

John Boisvert: No, this line is to meet the Pennichuck East demand of 1-11/2 million gallons a day.

Steve P.: Questions how much water the 42" pipe will draw on intake.

John B.: We currently have two 36" pipes. We currently are permitted to take 30 million gallons a day from the river. We are using 21-25 million gallons a day in summer.

Steve P.: How does this affect the river?

John B.: You won't see a fluctuation. Dr. Ballestro (hydrogeologist) looked at it and said we would not have a detrimental effect on the river.

Dave Cedarholm: It will be less than .1 of 1% use of the river.

Steve P. questions the cost. John B. said some of the money is bonded and some a SRF loan for the line crossing. It will be paid by the ratepayers over time.

Steve P.: How long do you think this project will sustain you?

John B.: Our base loads are going down because of water saving devices by homeowners. The largest demand is in the summer - irrigation is the issue.

The timing was right to do these projects financing wise and because of the aforementioned situations.

Erickson Construction

Andy Prolman, Esq. gives a brief overview of the project for his client.

Erickson Construction is currently located in Hudson, NH and employes 20-25 people. They currently have a signed purchase and sale agreement with the Colby family for the project after all permits are acquired.

The project will be for a 15,000 square foot single story building with a future addition of 15,000 square feet at a later date if business requires it. The building will be for storage, office and showroom. There will be some outside storage in the back of the building. There will be a site plan and simultaneously a lot line adjustment or two. The access will be over the existing farm road from Route 3A, widened out to accommodate the business.

Andy mentioned the permits and studies they will be doing: traffic study, Fish and Game, Natural Heritage Inventory, Pennichuck water service, fire protection, architectural plans, wetlands plan, litchfield special exception, sign permit, stormwater plan, and Lower Merr. Advisory Committee (LMRLAC). They are outside of the shoreland protection act area. The building will need a sprinkler fire suppression system.

Andy suggests a site walk with the Planning Board and Conservation Comm. probably in April. Chairman Young thanked Andy for coming in for a preliminary talk.

MS-4 Stormwater Information

Jen explained there was a recent meeting with EPA explaining the MS-4 permit for municipal stormwater systems for urbanized areas. On the EPA map of urbanized areas part of Litchfield would be included. Not effective until 7/1/2018, stormwater plan needed by 7/2019. There is no federal funding for the project unlike the 2003 permit. Outreach and education is required. Does your current ordinance meet the standards? Jen said all the regional planning commissions (RPC's) are trying to coordinate with DES and the other RPC's so no one community is bearing the cost to comply. Jen will also touch base with Troy (Town Administrator) regarding the permit specs which just came out Jan.18, 2017 after a multi-year delay.

Master Plan Update

Chapter 8 Land Use - Jen is still working on the process for the area numbers for buildable land.

Chapter 1 & 2 Track changes have been accepted and corrected.

Chairman Tom requests members do a final look through of the three chapters so they can get to a hearing date.

Committee Reports

Mike Croteau stated there is a LMRLAC meeting Thursday 2/23 at 7 p.m. in the Nashua Public Library.

Steve P. answered Kim Queenan's prior question regarding demolition of buildings. If it is a town owned building the Selectmen would have the control, right now there is no set process, but would be on the Selectmen's agenda and the Selectmen would need to approve. Other buildings the Code Enforcement/Building Official would have approval.

The next Planning Board meeting will be Tuesday, March 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.

Matt S. made a MOTION to adjourn, seconded by Mike C. Motion passes 8-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Minutes transcribed by
J. McKibben