

**PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC MEETING
TOWN OF LITCHFIELD**

Held on June 4, 2019

minutes approved on 6/18/2019

The Litchfield Planning Board held a meeting in the Town Hall conference room, 2 Liberty Way, Litchfield, NH 03052 on Tuesday, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Michael Croteau - Chairman, Kimberly Queenan - Vice-Chairman, Kate Stevens, Tony Turecki, Joshua Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kevin Lynch - Selectmen's Rep., James Boffetti

ALSO PRESENT: Joan McKibben (P.B. Admin. Assistant), Jay Minkarah (Executive Director Nashua Regional Planning Commission - NRPC)

CALL TO ORDER

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

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

AGENDA ITEMS:

**Master Plan Update - Transportation Chapter
Possible Zoning Changes for 2020
Release Jefferson Escrow**

1. Master Plan Update Transportation Chapter

Jay has added documents under the planning board site for review which include traffic counts, alternatives for traffic calming, etc.

Jay shows maps from the 2002 Master Plan regarding the Circumferential Highway (CH) partial build. The Circumferential Hwy. is not in the State's 10-year highway plan. The right-of-way remains in Litchfield for the CH. Jay will investigate how the state would dispose of excess highway land.

In a 1991 plan Albuquerque Ave. would have connected to Rte. 3A.

Page numbers below refer to the draft transportation document provided on the planning board site for June 4.

Page Rd. and Rt. 102 had a signal warrant analysis done. At this point the intersection did not justify a signal. The area should be watched over the long term. The possibility for another outlet could alleviate the traffic at that intersection. (pg. 11)

Litchfield subdivision regulations, for roads, require federal highway standards on highway width of 12' per lane. The suggestion is made to consider 10 or 11' lanes for residential streets to create slower speeds. (pg. 22)

Traffic calming - examples were put into the chapter (pg. 24). Kate mentions a local example in Nashua on South Main St.. Jay will have pictures taken of that area.

Albuquerque Ave. possibly widen shoulders for a buffered bike lane with bike lane painted on pavement instead of high speed cyclists using the pedestrian path. (pg. 26)

Cross walks on Albuquerque Ave.- (pg 29) Suggestion for painted warning to motorists to give pedestrians the right-of-way for key intersections.

Kim Q. mentioned there are no crosswalks at the high school to cross Albuquerque. Students have to walk within a one mile radius. Jay will plot the radius for the next work session.

Some priority areas exist for sidewalks. Continue sidewalks on Pinecrest Rd. to link schools and multi-use path on Albuquerque.

Jay mentioned there are now funds thru a CMAC grant to reduce congestion. Funds available about every two years.

Chapter recommendations consider the following:

- The extension of Albuquerque Ave to NH 102 and NH 3A
- The implementation of traffic calming measures on Albuquerque to reduce speeds including the alternative of painted designated bike lanes
- Prohibiting through-truck traffic on Albuquerque Ave north of Hillcrest Rd
- Add crosswalks at key intersections along Albuquerque Ave
- Extend the existing sidewalk along Pinecrest Rd. east to Albuquerque Ave
- Develop a multi-year Pavement Management plan based on existing road conditions

- Continue to implement access management controls to limit the number of new curb cuts on NH 102 and NH 3A
- Future electric car charging stations at town hall and schools
- Look into future autonomous cars technology.

Paratransit and passenger rail were discussed.

Jay will make changes to the chapter and then put a draft up on the site.

2. Zoning and Site Plan proposed changes

Propose to change square foot requirement of sheds from 192 to 200 square feet to meet the setback of 10' requirement.

Electric signs samples shown from Merrimack and Nashua.

- Need definition
- Do we want to allow electric signs in certain areas
- No concrete recommendations right now, the Board needs to review and then make decisions.

Proposal for Campers/RV's in residential areas, non-paying, time limits, appropriately hooked up to facilities. Need Board input.

Further suggested changes to come regarding changing special exceptions to conditional use permits in each zone.

Also defining temporary structures.

3. Jefferson Subdivision Rte. 3A Escrow Funds

The subdivision was approved 8/17/18 and recorded at HCRD 10/16/18.

Kim Q. makes a MOTION to release the escrow funds for the Jefferson subdivision

Tony T. seconds the motion. Motion carries 4-0-1.

Committee Reports

Mike C. attended the June 1 planning and zoning conference among the items discussed were zoning for tiny homes and the changing definition of agriculture.

Upcoming meetings

Litchfield Conservation	6/6	7 pm
Heritage Commission	6/11	
Zoning Board	6/12	

NRPC

6/19 7 pm

Lower Merrimack (LMRLAC) 6/24 7 pm at Nashua Pub. Library

May 7 Minutes

Kim Q. makes a MOTION to accept the May 7 minutes as written. Kate S. seconds the motion. Motion carried 5-0-0.

Other Business

Also at the June conference Mike mentioned the Board should take a look at the case Dartmouth v. Hanover, that involved the Hanover Planning Board.

At the 6/18 Planning Board meeting a planning board clerk needs to be elected.

Kim Q. supplied documents regarding the future of 5G and how it relates to the Planning Board regarding cell towers. Kim had a call from a concerned citizen regarding how this may affect the risk to the public's health.

The federal rules for 5G are being formed now. 5G is only being rolled out in 11 cities. The Board will follow the issue as it develops.

Kim Q. made a MOTION to adjourn seconded by Tony T. All in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

J. McKibben