

Litchfield Planning Board August 6, 2019

**PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC MEETING  
TOWN OF LITCHFIELD**

**Held on August 6,  
2019**

minutes approved on August 20, 2019

The Litchfield Planning Board held a meeting in the Town Hall conference room, 2 Liberty Way, Litchfield, NH 03052 on Tuesday, August 6, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Mike Croteau - Chairman, Kimberly Queenan - Vice-Chairman, James Boffetti, Joshua Smith

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Kevin Lynch - Selectmen's Rep., Kate Stevens, Tony Turecki

**ALSO PRESENT:** none

**CALL TO ORDER** Chairman Croteau called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. No alternates appointed. Roll call of members.

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

**1. Interview Planning Board applicant Ronald Stephens.** Mike C. welcomed applicant Ronald Stephens. Ronald S. introduced himself then reviewed his application with the Planning Board. Mike C. described the Planning Board responsibilities, meeting times, and that next steps would be for Ronald S. to meet

with the Board of Selectmen.

James B. makes a MOTION seconded by Kim Q. to send a recommendation to Troy Brown, the Town Administrator, requesting for Ronald Stephens to meet with the Board of Selectmen to become a Planning Board member/alternate. MOTION carries 4-0-0.

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**2. Eversource Roadway at 3A and Hillcrest** Mike C. stated that this presentation was an informational session only, and that Eversource had already spoken with the Conservation Commission and that they will be going to the Zoning Board tomorrow night.

Nick Golon, PE from TFMoran, reviewed a detailed engineering drawing with the Planning Board, describing the Eversource upgrade project. He discussed that when this project is done, it will allow Eversource to remotely switch lines, that will shut and open circuits to go around issues.

Nick G. reviewed the existing Eversource lines and the Eversource right-of-way access road on the Passaconaway Golf Course. He then discussed that for this upgrade project, they would need to create a new driveway onto Rt. 3A, a NH State Road.

To comply with NH State Road regulations, in order to build a new driveway onto Rt 3A, this project would require getting special exception approvals from the Conservation Commission (which they have already met with) and the Zoning Board (they will be meeting with tomorrow night) regarding wetland buffer setbacks. Nick G. discussed he has received approval for both permanent and temporary wetland permits from the Army of Engineering, DOT, and FAA (since there are two airports in the area). ==> Nick G. would like the Planning Board to send a recommendation letter to the

Zoning Board of Adjustment supporting this Eversource project.

Kurt Nelson, Transmission Arborist from Eversource, explained that the existing hard tap line currently goes over Hillcrest through the Passaconaway Golf Course, and there is 1 perpendicular line. He called this a "3-terminal circuit". Kurt N. said that if there is an outage or fault on any of the 3 sections of terminal circuit, the entire thing goes down for all the customers.

Elizabeth LaRocca, Community Relations Representative from Eversource, explained it is now Eversource's new policy of Remote Operation of Transmission Systems via satellite, to now allow for remote capability for local distribution. She stated this project will facilitate restoration to remotely swap to another line more quickly, than it would sending people and a truck out for failures/service of lines. She also said this "Area of Improvement Project", of converting this 3-terminal circuit, will improve the entire region as they upgrade/modernize their transmission/electric infrastructure. Therefore, this project has positive regional impact.

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==> TFMoran and Eversource restated that they would like the Planning Board to send

a recommendation letter to the Zoning Board of Adjustment supporting this Eversource project.

Kim Q. asked if they had spoken to the owners of the Passaconaway Golf Course. Sarah Hoodlet, Staff Public Involvement Specialist from Eversource, stated that she had met with all property owners, including the golf course owners, and that there was little to no concern. The area of the property that Eversource would need access to for this project is located in the back corner of the golf course. The owners are okay with this project and we will move forward with it, since there are minimal impacts to the property that we will help repair.

Kurt N. stated the golf course owners will allow the work since they respect our existing right of way on the property.

Nick G. restated that this upgrade project really only requires a new driveway on Rt 3A. Sarah H. said the golf course owners are aware of the need for this new driveway and have no objections with it. That the area needed for this project was on a backroad of their property, that they themselves may use only just once a year for snowplowing.

James B. asked if there were any objections to this project to date. Nick G. said there were none. Nick G. did say that at tomorrow nights' Zoning Board meeting, any abutters can speak then.

James B. asked if all other applications have been received. Nick G. said yes.

Mike C. restated that this presentation was informational only. He said the Conservation Commission was okay writing a letter of recommendation for this project. He said that the presentation tonight allowed the Planning Board to answer any questions we had.

==> Nick G. restated that it would help the project if the Planning Board could send a

recommendation letter to the Zoning Board of Adjustment supporting this Eversource project.

Joshua S. said it sounds like the Conservation Commission and all other groups are okay with this project.

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James B. makes a MOTION seconded by Kim Q. to have the Planning Board send a recommendation letter to the Zoning Board of Adjustment supporting this Eversource project. MOTION carries 4-0-0.

**Other Business:** None

**Committee Reports:** Mike C. said he did attend the Conservation Commission meeting last Thursday, and they were reviewing and finishing-up this Eversource presentation when he arrived. Mike C. reported that the next Lower Merrimack River Local Advisory Committee (LMRLAC) meeting will be on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month at 7 pm at the Nashua Public Library.

Kim Q. reported the next quarterly NRPC meeting is on Wednesday Sep 18, 2019. Joshua S. made some inquiries regarding NRPC roles and responsibilities, and that he may attend the next meeting, which is public, to see if it is something he would want to join.

Kim Q. reported the Heritage Commission meets next Tuesday Aug-13-2019. They will review the finalized Heritage Commission By-Laws, which contained Town Council minor modifications in it, and would vote to approve prior meeting minutes at that time, stating we need those approvals done to start getting them posted onto the Town

Government's web-site.

**Approval of July 16, 2019 Minutes:** James B. made a MOTION to approve the July, 16, 2019 minutes as written. Joshua S. seconds the motion. MOTION carries 4-0-0.

A MOTION to adjourn was made by James B, seconded by Joshua S. Motion carries 4-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted  
K. Queenan