

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE PLANNING BOARD

JANUARY 4, 2012
FINAL MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Board members present: Randy Martin, John Kieley, Mary Beth Ayvazian, Allan Pickman, and Rose Lowry

Call to order by Pickman at 7:34 p.m.

Pickman asked for a moment of silence in memory of Richard Whitcomb.

Approval of minutes: Move by Kieley to accept the minutes of 12/21/11 as written, second by Lowry, and voted four in favor with Ayvazian abstaining.

Large Wind Energy System (LWES) ordinance: The board continued refining the language of the draft ordinance. Kieley mentioned ongoing changes the Town of New Ipswich was making to their wind energy ordinance. This included no longer using the term “ambient” and substituting the term “background noise” instead. Another change was removing the height allowance for towers. This was followed by discussion of whether to continue to use 33dB as a maximum acceptable noise level, and how to define background noise values. Pickman offered to contact one of the consultants used by New Ipswich to seek further information. Connie Kieley urged the board not to create an ordinance that was less stringent than that of New Ipswich, saying it might have unintended consequences. Martin suggested the board consider how the town could work to obtain shares and actually profit from the project. One response was that should this occur and then a lawsuit be filed, the company could file bankruptcy and leave the town as sole defendant. The board also discussed wind rights, issuing of permits, status of Antrim’s large wind energy ordinance, and determination of application fees.

Kieley said he had made contact with a sound consultant firm, and they were available to review the ordinance document at a cost of \$750. Kieley said if a consultant needed to come to a meeting the cost would be an additional \$500. Board members agreed this sounded reasonable and decided to have Kieley hire the consulting firm.

Pickman stated the board should vote to accept the current ordinance draft as amended to present at the first public hearing. Kieley so moved, seconded by Ayvazian, and voted in the unanimous affirmative. A printed copy of the document will be available in the town offices and an online version on the town website.

Home business zoning changes: Board members agreed to again consider the “housekeeping” issues that were proposed last year but did not receive follow through due to time constraints. These will be posted for the second public hearing to be held on February 1, 2012.

PB quorum – Martin asked the board whether a new member or an alternate should be appointed to make sure a quorum can be obtained for meetings. No action taken. It was noted the upcoming dates for candidates to file for elected office are January 25th through February 3rd.

Move to adjourn by Ayvazian, second by Kieley, and so voted unanimously at 8:49 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Betsy Perry