

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
PLANNING BOARD
November 18, 2015
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Board members present: Ted Sartell, Randy Martin, George Willard, Tedd Petro, Bruce Kullgren, and Allan Pickman

Call to order by Pickman at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of minutes: Motion by Petro to approve the minutes of 11/04/15 as amended, second by Sartell, and so voted.

Noise Ordinance: Pickman reminded the board of the timeline they have to review the draft document, set a date for the first public hearing, and post the draft. Sartell explained his process for developing a noise ordinance document for Temple based on text contained in New Ipswich's version, and then said he had further changes to be made to the draft. Discussion ensued regarding details and methods of measuring noise, and updates to the text were incorporated. Petro moved "to accept the draft as amended, post it by 11/19/15, and set a date for a public hearing on 12/16/15", seconded by Sartell, and voted unanimously in favor. The proposed ordinance will be posted on the town's website and a copy made available for review at the municipal office. A public notice will be sent to the Monadnock Ledger-Transcript to comply with publishing deadlines.

Sign Ordinance: Sartell said he had created proposed changes to the zoning ordinance regarding signs, and passed out copies of his draft document. He reminded the board of recent past history of both Gail Cromwell and George Willard sending letters requesting the board take a look at possibly revising the existing language. Sartell indicated it was his intent to have signs be helpful to local businesses. Discussion followed regarding use of neon "Open" signs, "Open" flags, and directional signs on roads. It was noted any changes would have to go to a public hearing and then before the voters. The board decided to look further into this issue at their next meeting.

Other business: Randy Martin said he had two items to bring before the board. The first was a potential sale of a 50-acre parcel of his farmland to a group of Buddhist monks plus other interested people, who would own shares in the property. Martin explained the monks are not the same group as the forest monks who live on the former Kantner property, but would similarly erect one main building and several singular kutis (huts). He said the monks would be agreeable to putting a conservation easement on the property and would be taxpayers. Martin said he would like ideas from the board on the best way zoning-wise to set the land up to account for six share-holders. Pickman suggested Martin look into the PRD ordinance as a starting point. The second item Martin wanted to mention was that several owners of large tracts of land in the north part of town were considering placing conservation easements on their land, which would protect that part of town from development. He stated they were working with the Russell Foundation, which specializes in facilitating such easements and could be a source of funding.

Move to adjourn by Sartell, second by Willard, and so voted at 8:32 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Betsy Perry

~ Next regular meeting to be held on Wednesday, December 2nd, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. ~