

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE
PLANNING BOARD
December 16, 2015
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

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

Call to order by Pickman at 7:03 p.m.

Approval of minutes: Motion by Petro to approve the minutes of 12/02/15 as amended, second by Sartell, and so voted.

Appointment: Vince Mamone returned to ask several questions before proceeding with a possible subdivision of his property. Mamone said after speaking with surveyors he wished to know in more detail what the board needed. A 1979 survey plat of his property was reviewed. After discussion, Mamone was advised to have a complete boundary survey done all at once, with the board agreeing to waive the need for wetlands delineation and showing 2-foot contours. He was also told septic test pits must be dug on each lot, which would need to be observed by the town's health officer. Mamone mentioned Brown Brook as well as an aquifer are located at one end of the land, and said he is willing to consider placing a conservation easement on any land not suitable for building. Mamone then asked about an existing town drainage ditch that crosses one corner of his property near Mud Road. There is no known existing easement to the town and he was advised to contact road agent Tim Fiske.

Noise Ordinance: At 7:30 p.m. Pickman opened the Public Hearing for a proposed zoning amendment to regulate noise for commercial and industrial facilities. Copies of the "Section 31: Commercial and Industrial Noise" document were made available to audience members. Pickman read from the list of specific exclusions, and said the ordinance was technical in nature and based on Temple being a fairly quiet community and wishing to keep it that way.

During the public comment session board members and audience members participated in discussing intent and specifics of the ordinance. Issues included: whether to specifically reference the pipeline and compressor station; how the SEC (Site Evaluation Committee) and FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) have the ability to overrule town ordinances; how decibel levels listed in the Tables were established; human hearing sensitivity and types of noise levels deemed "acceptable" vs. "objectionable" (including a recording of 10dBA noise within Temple); whether to coordinate decibel standards with the town's LWES (Large Wind Energy Systems); whether to refer to SEC rules embodied in RSA: 162-H.

Several suggestions for revisions to the language were offered, and it was agreed to incorporate the following changes: (shown in Italics/Bold)

Paragraph #1 – Purpose: Add into second sentence: Residents shall be protected *from adverse health effects* from exposure to excessive noises emitted...

Paragraph #8 – Noise Compliance: Add into first sentence: ...performed by a qualified professional *chosen by the Selectmen* when directed by Code Enforcement...

Paragraph #9 – Noise Measurements – Paragraph a: Add *I-INCE* into the standards organizations listed within the parentheses at the end of the sentence. (*Note: this is conditional upon Sartell verifying with Ed Dekker from New Ipswich.*)

Pickman noted none of the changes discussed would necessitate a second hearing, but it might be important to have one to raise people's awareness before voting by ballot. Timelines were explored to help choose a date for the second public hearing. Motion by Petro to add a second public hearing on Wednesday, January 20th, 2016, second by Pickman, and so voted. Motion by Lockwood to close the public hearing, second by Petro, and so voted at 8:25 p.m.

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Sign Ordinance: Willard distributed a letter offering personal observations about the status of revising the town's sign ordinance. He noted this topic had not been a priority for the PB this year due to their focus on creating two new ordinances to deal with concerns relating to the proposed pipeline project. He also indicated he would support a couple of specific changes to the existing sign ordinance. The board was reminded of a previous letter signed by the Selectmen requesting action be taken. Extended discussion followed on whether to propose amendments this year or not. Petro suggested holding public forums next year to seek community input, while moving forward now with just changes for neon signs. The proposed language would involve deleting the existing paragraph (e) under Section 17 Signs, to be replaced by new language from a previously submitted draft proposed by Sartell. Pickman then asked for a sense of the meeting in regard to proceeding now with revising the neon language, and all members were in favor. A public hearing will be held in conjunction with the January 20, 2016 hearing for Commercial and Industrial Noise.

Move to adjourn by Petro, second by everybody, and so voted at 8:56 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Betsy Perry

~ Next regular meeting to be held on Wednesday, January 6th, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. ~