

Town of Conway

Minutes of the Conway Planning Board Meeting, April 2, 2015

Present: Chairman Joseph Strzegowski, David Barten, Mary McClintock, Sue McFarland and David Chichester.

Absent:

Guests: Tom Lesser, Attorney at Law

Chairman Strzegowski opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m. in the Conway Town Office.

1. The minutes of the March 19th Public Hearing were approved as written: 4 – 0 - 1 The minutes of the Regular March 19th meeting were approved as written: 4 -0 - 1
2. Mr. Strzegowski distributed the latest copy of the **Proposed Protective Bylaw** changes which reflected the public comments of the March 19th Public Hearing (documented in those minutes) and those of the Regularly Scheduled PB meeting of March 19, which followed immediately. The PB voted 5 – 0 to recommend the changes, as printed, for presentation to the May 11, 2015 Town Meeting.

ACTION ITEM:

- Mr. Strzegowski will submit the final copy to the Town Administrator for inclusion in the Town Meeting Warrant.
3. There was discussion about publicizing the proposed Protective Bylaw changes in advance of the Town Meeting. The PB felt it important to aggressively continue the outreach efforts.

ACTION ITEM:

- Ms McClintock will contact Conway's **Recorder** reporter, Tom Relihan, to provide background and more detail, and to specifically ask for a thorough article in the newspaper covering the key points of the proposed changes. There will also be handouts for the Pre-Town Meeting on May 4th.
4. Mr. Strzegowski reported that the effort of the Wastewater *AdHoc* Committee to review Board of Health files and grade the quality of septic systems on River Street and Main Street has proven to be interesting and of value. Consequently, the committee has decided to expand their reviews to homes on Elm Street, Orchard Street, Baptist Hill, and Pumpkin Hollow. There will be a joint meeting of the Board of Health, Selectboard and the Wastewater Committee with the Consultants at 6:30 on April 13th. This will be preceded by a tour to acquaint the consultants with the target area. Mr. Strzegowski also mentioned that the translation of this data to the Assessors GIS maps is proceeding well.
 5. Mr. Tom Lesser, Attorney at Law, met with the Planning Board to share some of his thoughts on the proposed Protective Bylaw Revisions. Although not pertinent to this particular round of changes, he did indicate that he does not like some of the Performance Standards found in sections 22.1 (b) and 23.3. Following a lively back and forth discussion, he mentioned that he had no trouble with any of the changes currently being proposed and would be willing to so state at the upcoming Town Meeting.
 6. An e-mail was circulated by Peggy Sloan, FRCOG, announcing the availability of FY '16 PARC and Conservation Partnership grants for "small town projects." Allegedly, these are relatively small grants available to help in the building or renovation of playgrounds, tennis courts, basketball courts, etc., for

example. The PB concluded that this might be an opportunity for the Town Park Project, but the future of that project is uncertain at this time. The deadline for submission is July 15th.

ACTION ITEM:

- Defer for now, but keep it on the radar screen.
7. Ms McFarland and Mr. Strzegowski reported that the *AdHoc* Pipeline Committee is recommending to the Selectboard that Conway join other towns in a regional response to many of the adverse issues being posed by that project. There is the common concern, for example about objectionable noises to be caused by proposed 24/7 drilling under the Deerfield River. Towns are pointing toward creating noise bylaws, as just one of many areas of focus. There is a mutual desire to develop a model hosting agreement to address other myriad issues. In this respect, Mr. Strzegowski has submitted to the Selectboard a request for Special Funds Transfer of \$8,500 for FY '15 and to appropriate \$20,000 at the Town Meeting for FY '16. Such monies would be used to share with participating towns the technical and legal support required to deal with these issues effectively.
 8. The PB briefly discussed the State's model solar bylaw toward the possibility of future Protective Bylaw changes. It was suggested the PB refer the State's model language plus the Town's existing solar bylaws to the Energy Committee for their review and recommendations. This is in view of a possible Special Town Meeting in the Fall. Motion made and approved, 5 – 0.

ACTION ITEM:

- Mr. Strzegowski will send the State's model solar bylaw language and existing Town Bylaws to the Energy Committee for review and comment. Looking for a response by July 1.
9. In view of the fact that Mr. Chichester will be absent from the next PB meeting, Ms McClintock graciously volunteered to take minutes of that meeting.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, April 16, 2015; 7:00 p.m. at the Conway Town Office.

There being no further business, the members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David I Chichester