

Town of Conway

Minutes of the Conway Planning Board Meeting, July 23, 2015)

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

Guest: Kimberlee MacPhee, FRCOG, Land Use & Natural Resources Program Manager

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

1. The minutes of the June 19, 2015, regular meeting were approved as amended: 4 – 0 – 1.
2. The minutes of the Special June 29, 2015 meeting were approved as written: 3 – 0 – 2.
3. Chairman Strzegowski welcomed new member, Tami Borton, to the Planning Board.
4. To remove any uncertainty, the Board ratified a previous action (5/21/2015) appointing Ms McFarland to the Community Preservation Committee. 5 – 0 – 0.

ACTION ITEM:

Mr. Strzegowski will advise the Chair of the CPC.

5. Mr. Strzegowski reported that the Warrant for the Special Town Meeting of August 3, 2015, will include an article requesting authority for the Planning Board to annually appoint an Associate Member. This is allowed by State Law.
6. Ms MacPhee explained that the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) had received a grant from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), funding a study of the South River watershed to assess the risks of flooding and fluvial erosion and to develop options for managing/mitigating possible damage. She is working with several towns that share the South River and its tributaries. She explained that the best way to protect the River is to develop a Fluvial Hazard Overlay Zone in the town, which would be integrated into the Zoning Map, clearly defining vulnerable areas and risk levels. Then plans/options would be developed to ensure proper mitigation. This would be something the Planning Board would develop over the next several months towards enhancing the Town's Protective Bylaws.

Ms MacPhee would like to meet with the Planning Board on a regular schedule over the ensuing months as information and details become available. This would enable an orderly way to plot the strategies and options and give context to its value. The ultimate goal of the project would be to reduce fluvial erosion damage to the river and its surrounding environment.

ACTION ITEM:

Mr. Strzegowski will get back to Ms MacPhee to set a plan for subsequent meetings with the PB.

7. Ms McFarland reported on the frequent meetings of the local *AdHoc* Pipeline Committee. A lot of the discussion has been with local town officials focusing on emergency response, highway concerns, fire, police, communications with the Pipeline construction groups, traffic concerns, school bus routes, etc. The committee is meeting next week with the Selectboard to facilitate a

letter to FERC, asking them to extend the comment period so that all of these concerns and questions can be properly developed and communicated. The committee encourages all citizens to send their comments to the Pipeline Committee via the Town's web site. The local group will be meeting every Wednesday, at least, for the next month.

Mr. Strzegowski, on behalf of the Regional Pipeline Committee, reported that they are working on the draft of an EIS statement, which is due by August 31st.

8. On the subject of controlling the number of vehicles and junk on the premises of licensed used car dealers, the Town Administrator recently polled other towns in the area to see how they do it. Responses indicated that most towns require Special Permits, through their Planning Boards, that go along with the business licenses and define special conditions which are to be met. It becomes a set of conditions of the license.

In discussing how to proceed on this issue, Ms Borton volunteered to explore the possibility of a Town Bylaw which would detail the process for combining Special Permits with the issue of licenses to do business in Conway.

ACTION ITEM:

Ms Borton will develop a plan to improve on the authority and process for defining appropriate conditions for used car establishments.

9. Mr. Strzegowski reported on the *AdHoc* Wastewater Committee's progress. Working with an outside consultant, Brent White of White Engineering, the group has been submitting questions and thoughts to him through a series of conference calls. He has also been communicating with representative from the Department of Environmental Protection. The committee has been evaluating the features, advantages, disadvantages and costs of various systems and trying to focus in on the approach that would be most palatable to Conway taxpayers and interested users of the system. The committee will meet on August 6th to review the next draft proposal.

There being no further business, the members voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: Thursday, August 20, 2015; 7:00 p.m. at the Conway Town Office. The PB will return to its regular meeting schedule of first and third Thursdays, beginning in September.

Respectfully submitted,
David I Chichester