



MADBURY PLANNING BOARD

13 Town Hall Road, Madbury NH 03823

Tel: 603 742-5131 • Fax: 603 742-2502

Approved

OFFICIAL BUSINESS

Minutes of: March 18, 2020

Meeting Convened: 7:00 p.m.

Members in Attendance:

Mark Avery – Chair

Tom Burbank

Michael Card

Bruce Hodsdon – Ex Officio

Support Staff in Attendance:

Agenda

1. Seating of Alternates:

None seated.

2. Approval of Minutes:

None approved. Not enough members present from the March 4th 2020 meeting. Approval was tabled until appropriate quorum is available.

3. Correspondence:

None.

4. Election of Officers:

Chair Avery suggested we table the election due to such a low number of members present. Board concurred.

5. Public Hearing - Wetland Crossing Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for Electrical Structure Replacement off Madbury Road.

At 7:03 Chair Avery announced the Wetland Crossing CUP process and stated that the reason for the process is to review the permit and give the public a chance to comment. The CUP checklist was reviewed by Chair Avery. **Member Burbank moved** that we accept the application and start the hearing. **Member Card seconded** the motion. **All Aye. Motion Passed.**

VHB Consultant Sherrie Trefry explained to the board that her environmental company will ensure Eversource will follow the best management practices of least environmental

impact in this area. The work is intended to start next week, but they are waiting approval from the Conservation Commission and Water Board. The plans show a total impact of 27,166 sq. ft. Timber matting will be used for access to minimize impact and they will be monitoring the construction.

Member Hodsdon asked if the Conservation Commission approval is a requirement for starting. Chair Avery explained the role of the Conservation Commission and added that the Water Board also has the opportunity for input.

Chair Avery asked Ms. Trefry if there will be any special considerations due to the wetness of the soil this time of the year. Ms. Trefry said they will be adding gravel to the access roads.

Chair Avery then asked two e-mailed abutter questions. 1. How long is this process? Ms. Trefry said the process will take approximately two months, and they should be done by the second growing season. 2. Why are the lines not buried? Ms. Trefry mentioned that these lines are existing, and putting lines underground would not be maintenance. Eversource also does not have the rights to the land to bury lines. Finally, burying lines would be costly.

Member Hodsdon then asked if the Town's Planning Consultant's questions and recommendations were received. Chair Avery reviewed the Consultant Durfee's recommendations and asked Ms. Trefry where the soil from construction will be deposited. Ms. Trefry explained the pole measurements and approximately how much soil they expect. The soil will be spread on upland areas and will be seeded and mulched as needed. She further explained construction debris such as insulators, wires, and poles will all be removed, and sent to a facility to recycle as much as possible.

Chair Avery then asked Ms. Trefry the timeframe expected for vegetation re-growth and if her company goes back to confirm the growth has taken place. Ms. Trefry said 85% regrowth should take place and they ensure this by revisiting the site one growing season later. A report is generated and given to Eversource, and they can give this report to the Planning Board.

Member Burbank asked if there is a pad size difference with the new poles. Ms. Trefry explained there is no change in pad size, however there is an increase in the diameter thickness. Member Burbank followed up asking the life expectancy of these poles. Ms. Trefry says these should last between 50-70 years and can be recycled once they are no longer usable.

Chair Avery then reviewed the Checklist Criteria for CUPs. The board had no additional questions on the applicant's submitted written answers.

At 7:25 the Chair opened the meeting to comments from the public. Having no other attendees, this closed at 7:25.

At 7:26 **Member Burbank moved** that we approve the Wetland Crossing CUP. **Member Card seconded** this motion. **All Aye. Motion Passed** and hearing closed.

6. Informal Site Plan Review - Portsmouth Water Treatment Plant New Backwash Tank Installation

Applicant not present.

7. Other New Business

The board discussed options for discussion in the future as the COVID-19 will impact upcoming meetings.

8. Other Old Business

None

Meeting Adjourned: 7:36 pm

Meeting Attendees:

Sherrie Trefry – VHB Inc, Environmental Consultants

Respectfully Submitted by Michael Card