

Town of Sumner - Planning Board Minutes
September 15, 2020 6:30 pm via Zoom

Members Present: James McCarthy, Larry O'Rourke, Eric Austin, Don Berry, John Allen, and secretary to Planning Board Susan Strout.

Public Present: none

Reading and approval of the minutes from the meeting on September 1, 2020 with a motion by O'Rourke seconded by Berry and voted.

Open Session:
none

CEO/LPI Report: Fred Collins
Not present – see notes below

Collins has sent a message that Andy Wickson had been asked to provide a copy of his Port-a-potty contract to the Town Office. Wickson replied that he is not required to do that. Berry said he would look into the plumbing codes. Collins will also be asked to do the same.

Forms, Reports, Correspondence:

The non-compliance letters served to Hart property owners have received no response. The Select Board voted to adopt the fines recommended by the Planning Board of \$100 per day for a week, \$200 / day for the second week and \$300 / day after that. MMA legal department was consulted before the letter was sent out and advised that it is the court who usually assigns the fines in town situations like this. They also said the CEO would be the one to take this to court if the CEO is 80k certified. (Collins is not).

O'Rourke expressed concern that this was again creating another delay in this process. He suggested for the Select Board to send the letter with the fines and initiate the next step with court at this time. McCarthy said he would connect with Haxton since he is not able to attend the next Select Board meeting.

The Town Office also received a call from a neighbor with concern about the property and the health issues. This resident was asked to send the office a letter or an email noting the concerns. Strout asked if DHHS has been contacted in any similar situation in the past. No one recalled that being done. Strout said she would call to find out the process or feasibility.

Building Notifications:

Ronald & Heidi St. Pierre, 267 Redding Road, R18-003, replacing porch
The Building Notification had been examined by Planning Board members and a conclusion was reached that a BN was not needed in this instance. Strout will send back the application check.

The list of concerns from the last meeting was review with Collins' notes:

Tim Garrett, 259 Gammon Rd, was requested by Collins to fill out a BN and submit to Town Office. Nothing has been received from him. Collins will need to follow up.

16 Estes Road. Owner of shed that is too close to the road was asked to move it. Collins needs to inspect to see if moved.

Collins submitted a note that he did not see any additional work on a property on Upper Sumner Hill Road. An address would be needed to communicate between CEO and Planning Board.

The former junkyard issue at 144 Upper Sumner Hill Road needs to be re-checked for additional collections.

A new concern is the property on Redding road where it crosses Tuell Hill Road. The property is listed as owned by Jason Gammon whose mailing address is in Tamworth, NH. The building(s) appear to be falling down, even possibly into the road. Collins is asked to check on the condition.

New Business:

Old Business:

Sample template letter for septic/gray water – tabled until Collins can be part of discussion.

The Climate Commission established by Governor Mills is looking at six major topics. The safety of homes is included in this study. O'Rourke informed us that the MUBEC standards are currently only required of towns of 4,000 or more. He believes that those requirements will be extended to all communities. The reports are due back to the governor soon.

The discussion on Occupancy Permits will be resumed after that report is made available. The examples of permits from Collins and comments from Austin will be added to that discussion.

The meeting was adjourned with a motion by Allen, seconded by Berry and voted at 7:11 pm.

Upcoming events:

Presidential election, November 3, 2020