

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

Members Present: James McCarthy, Larry O'Rourke, Eric Austin, Don Berry, CEO Fred Collins, and secretary to the Planning Board Susan Strout. John Allen was not present due to technology issues.

Public Present: none

The minutes from the meeting on September 15, 2020 were approved with a motion by McCarthy and seconded by Berry.

Open Session:

CEO/LPI Report: Fred Collins

The list of concerns from the last meeting was reviewed:

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 still needs to follow up.

16 Estes Road. Building is too close to the road was asked by Road Commissioner Andy Wickson to move it. Collins still needs to inspect to see if moved. Resident is a renter. Property owner is Stephen Shepard of Auburn. O'Rourke will attempt to make direct contact with owner.

The property at 279 Gammon Road 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 for safety.

Forms, Reports, Correspondence:

There was no update on non-compliance letters served to Hart property owners. The Select Board is discussing legal action.

Building Notifications:

Joel Chapman, R 21-021, 431 Black Mountain, animal shed
Approved with a motion by O'Rourke and seconded by Austin.

New Business:

The Town Office received a call our Animal Control Officer that there is a residence on Bonney Road where a dog had been caged in the mobile home for at least several days. The dog has been relocated and the rental resident has moved out. ACO Vachon called the town office when she did not receive a return call from Collins.

O'Rourke has questioned if the house at 14 Butterfield Road has an adequate septic system. The location creates a concern being right on the river. Strout reports there is a septic design from 2000 in the property folder that she will scan and send to Planning Board members.

The Town Office and Collins received calls from Phillip Ewing. Ewing was asking for a statement from the Town that he could provide a potential buyer stating that the property is buildable even though it is less than the minimum lot size. Ewing has two lots on Barrows. The lot in question is R10-15A with acreage of .9 and no building currently on the property.

Maine Municipal Solar information was distributed to board members as well as the Gray, Maine ordinance for solar stuff. The discussion expanded to renewable energy sources of solar, wind and hydro. O'Rourke made a motion for the Planning Board to recommend to the Select Board to set up a committee to evaluate the use of a renewable energy ordinance. The motion was seconded by Austin and so voted.

Several questions have come into the office concerning demolition permits. Collins provided an example and suggested the town adopt a demolition notification like the building notification. This would keep the assessors up to date and make the Town aware of changes. More discussion will follow.

Old Business:

Sample template letter for septic/gray water – discussion was moved forward to next meeting

MUBEC / Gov Mills Climate Commission and Occupancy Permit discussion - discussion was moved forward to next meeting.

Upcoming events:

Presidential Election, November 3, 2020

Polls at Town Office open 8 am to 8 pm

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm with a motion by McCarthy, seconded by Austin and voted unanimously.