

Mason Planning Board Meeting Minutes

Date: September 29, 2021

Location: Mason Town Hall

Minutes: Approved

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 by Dane Rota

Attending Members

Charlie Moser (Ex-O), Dane Rota, John Suiter, Mason Twombly (NRPC), Alt. Katie Boots, Alt. Gerry Anderson

Absent Members

Dotsie Millbrandt

Attending Public

Darryl Scott, Crystal Franciosi (Eversource), Liz Fletcher, Garth Fletcher, Bob Dilberger

Next Meeting

October 27, 2021

Voting Members Tonight

Dane Rota, Charlie Moser, John Suiter, Katie Boots, Gerry Anderson

Regular/Old Business

Minutes

The minutes of August 25, 2021 were previously sent out to board members. Charlie moved to approve the minutes as is. John seconded. Voted all in favor.

Communications to the Board

Email received from Erik Mitchell expressing interest in lots for sale in Mason. Erik is asking about ordinance information regarding developing a group of homes, condos to be specific. Dane recommended particular articles in the Town Ordinance for him to get information from. Dane also recommended Erik to reach out to Mason for details.

New/Continuing Hearings

Public information session for Wetlands Buffer Ordinance

Darrell Scott inquired as to what the wetlands ordinance is and entails. Informational handouts were provided by the planning board and also conservation committee.

Dane explained that Mason already has a wetlands ordinance, this is just an amendment to bring the ordinance to be in better alignment with existing states and to resemble other towns. Objectives are pollution control, water protection. Dane read from the town survey that majority of residents wanted more environmental /conservation protections and conserve and protect open space lands from development.

Bob Dilberger asked the question “why are manmade ponds specifically excluded from the ordinance”.

Dane responded some man made ponds are for fire protection, agriculture; board mentioned that the wording has been since changed within the ordinance as to alleviate any confusion- Bob agreed that the new wording would suffice

Bob asked ‘is it reasonable for the state to consider a piece of land a wetland and the town of Mason does not?’ Charlie agreed that we should have the same definitions as what the state does.

Dane closed the public information session at 7:31

Public Hearing: Eversource Tree Trimming

This public hearing is to discuss the trimming and removal of trees on Jackson Rd for maintenance purposes per the request of Eversource through Mason Road Agent- Crystal Franciosi.

Crystal is representing Eversource. Crystal explained that part of her role is to make sure the people trimming the trees are following the specifications set. She confirmed that all home owners have signed and agreed to have the trees in question per the spreadsheet on Scripps Lane and Jackson Rd.

Dane requested digital copies of all the signatures for Planning Board records and Crystal agreed to email them.

Board Members noticed that the public notice of agenda only listed Jackson Rd and did not list Scripps Lane. Charlie is questioning whether or not the board can approve the Scripps Lane without a public notification. Crystal agreed that there will be no delay in only approving Jackson Rd at tonight’s meeting and waiting on Scripps Lane. Scripps Lane project will be reviewed at next month’s meeting and notification will be put in the paper.

John made a motion to approve the project for Jackson Rd Tree ID’s 1 through 15. Charlie seconded. Board Members all in favor. Motion passed.

Preliminary Consultation 443 Fitchburg Rd, Tax Map J, Lot 54-1

Inquirer wanted to discuss potential project. No further information given. Mason to follow up with inquirer.

Other Business

Appointment of Planning Board Member(s)

Charlie made a motion to approve Gerry as permanent board member. Dane seconded. All in favor- Gerry abstained. Motion passed.

CIP Update

Charlie provided update that the requests for Improvements will be sent out to departments on or about October 7th.

Adjourn

John made a motion to adjourn. Dane seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.