

Minutes
Planning Board Meeting via ZOOM
7 August 2024

Present: Doug Mason, Steve Thane, Will Emmet, Bill Fontes, Peter Charow

Guests: Wanda Mooney, Barbara Rode, Madison Schofield (Recorder reporter)

Doug called meeting to order at 7:01 PM

1. Proposed 3 phase power lines on Burrington Rd
 - a. We discussed the National Grid proposal to upgrade the power lines from Rt 2 up Avery Brook Rd via Burrington Rd to South Rd, terminating at Heath Center.
 - b. Wanda Mooney is very concerned that the proposed 45 foot tall poles and 3 phase power lines in front of her home would spoil the view and significantly reduce her property value. She is determined to stop the project or get National Grid to modify it by burying the power lines in front of her home.
 - c. Board members expressed concern that the 3 phase power upgrade would allow for commercial solar power installations.
 - d. Bill Fontes noted that in his professional experience, Verizon and broadband fiber lines would be much lower than the power lines.
 - e. Wanda inquired what the town right of way is. 25 feet on either side of the center of the roadway.
 - f. Building permits are required for new (vs replacement) poles. There are no existing power lines in front of the Mooney home.
 - g. Steve Thane in his capacity of Tree Warden toured the proposed route with National Grid. One tree on the Town Common was tagged to NOT be removed. Tree removal on National Grid's dime is welcomed, particularly dead/diseased trees.
 - h. Will wondered whether the Planning Board had any official position on the project, particularly in connection with pole replacement. New poles are another matter.
 - i. There is going to be a presentation/meeting with National Grid and the Selectboard on August 27th. All interested citizens are encouraged to attend.
 - j. No specific plans have been presented. The time line is to begin during the last quarter of 2024 with completion by the end of the second quarter of 2025.
2. The draft minutes of May 29th and July 3rd 2024 were reviewed.
 - a. Regarding the minutes of July 3rd, Peter found a typo. He is most definitely not named Steve Charow.
 - b. Bill moved to accept the minutes of May 29th as submitted and the minutes of July 3rd as corrected. Steve seconded. Vote was 5-0 in favor.
3. The All Boards Clerk is Cindie Garland (on vacation this week).
4. There was some further discussion of the noise bylaw.

5. Will made a motion to adjourn. Peter seconded. Vote was 5-0 in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

William T. Emmet