

GEORGETOWN PLANNING COMMISSION

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

CALL TO ORDER

The Georgetown Planning Commission held a regular meeting on Wednesday, December 9, 2009 in the Georgetown Town Hall, 404 6th Street. The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Answering the roll were Chairperson Cynthia Skeen, Vice Chairperson Kerry Ann McHugh and Commissioner Kathy Hunninen. Commissioners Dana Abrahamson and Jan Shirlaw were absent. Also in attendance was Recording Secretary/Town Clerk Merinel Williams.

AUDIENCE BUSINESS – None.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Ms. Hunninen suggested that discussion of a proposed waste processing plant and discussion of the memorandum received from County Planner Adam Springer regarding the Town's comments on the proposed anemometer towers east of Town be added to the agenda. The Clerk requested removal of the November 2, 2009 minutes as they are not yet drafted. Ms. McHugh moved to approve the agenda as amended. Ms. Hunninen seconded and the motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discuss the attendance record of Planning Commission members

The Commissioners acknowledged that the Town Code provides that Planning Commission members may be removed from membership by the Board of Selectmen if they are absent for more than 3 consecutive meetings or 60% of meetings within 6 months.

Ms. Hunninen moved that the Planning Commission recommend to the Board of Selectmen that Dana Abrahamson be removed from the Commission for excessive absenteeism, Ms. McHugh seconded the motion. Ms. Skeen indicated that she will draft a letter to the Board informing them of the recommendation and requesting that they recruit additional Commission members. The motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

Discuss snow removal on 6th Street

Ms. Hunninen noted that snow buildup blocks drainage and the Town crew should remove hard packed snow sooner than they have been. The Commissioners expressed hope that the matter would be resolved soon.

Memorandum from County Planner Adam Springer in response to Town's comments on proposed anemometer towers east of Georgetown

Ms. Skeen explained that the Board of Selectmen adopted the Commission's recommendations as its comment to the County. The memorandum received in response to

the Town's comments is offensive. The Commissioners agreed that all of its comments were and are valid. They instructed the Clerk to always invite the County's case manager to the Commission's review of any County referral.

Discussion regarding a proposed waste processing facility

Ms. Hunninen explained that she became aware of the submission of an application from Timberline Disposal for approval of an operating plan for a waste processing facility when she attended the Board of Selectmen's meeting last night. The Planning Commission is not included in the process to review the plan, which she believes is not acceptable.

The Clerk explained that the facility was determined to be in compliance with the Gateway Mountainside Industrial zoning district last summer by the Town Administrator. The Town Code provides a process whereby a zoning question can be referred to the Board of Selectmen for a final determination. Ms. Hunninen reviewed information that she researched from the EPA and state health about potential impacts of these kinds of facilities. She disagreed with the Town Administrator's determination that the proposed facility is a small non-polluting light-industrial use.

Ms. McHugh moved that the Planning Commission challenges Town Administrator Cory Nicholson's zoning determination regarding the proposed waste processing facility and requests that the zoning determination process in Section 17.16.040 of the Georgetown Municipal Code be initiated to seek a final determination from the Board of Selectmen. Ms. McHugh seconded and the motion was adopted by unanimous vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Skeen adjourned the meeting at 7:09 p.m.

Merinel Williams, Town Clerk

Cynthia Skeen, Chairperson