



Town of Panton Chartered 1761

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Development Review Board & Planning Commission Meeting June 13, 2019

Members Present: Bob Hartenstein, Mary Rudd, Dave Wolniewicz, Bradley Dewey
Others present: Howard Hall and Teresa Smith

Development Review Board

Mary Rudd called the meeting to order at 6:55pm. The May minutes were reviewed. Bob Hartenstein moved to accept the minutes as written. Dave Wolniewicz second and the minutes were unanimously approved.

The Zoning Administrator was not present therefore there was no zoning report.

In other business Mary Rudd began by discussing the signs at BJ's Farm Supply. She noted the store has a conditional use permit in a residential zone. The conditional use permit allows for one permanent sign and one sandwich board sign. Currently the business owners have too many signs. Some of which are hard to see as the letters are small and it appears some are located in the Town Right of Way. Also discussed was the fact that the neon lights in the windows are not being turned off after business hours. Mary Rudd will speak with Kris Perlee and discuss the regulations in reference to the signs and location in ROW and ask him to convey the information to the store owners.

Dave Wolniewicz moved to adjourn the Development Review Board meeting and convene the Planning Commission at 7:03pm. Bob Hartenstein second and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Planning Commission

The May minutes were reviewed. Brad Dewey moved to accept them as written. Bob Hartenstein second and the minutes were unanimously approved.

In order to not keep the Selectboard members longer than necessary, discussion of the Vergennes bypass began. Mary noted that she had attended the recent Selectboard meeting at which Vergennes representative were explaining the bypass and asking for Pantton's support. Mary stated she understands the need in Vergennes but feels this is only moving the problem not working toward fixing the fact that there is just too much truck traffic. Mary noted she feels it is important to hear the opinions of the residents of Pantton. There was discussion about whether or not the bypass would increase traffic on Pantton Road and Lake Road. Also noted was that the noise level on Pantton Road will increase. Howard Hall noted that the county Transportation Action Committee, of which he is a member, voted to support the bypass but with the understanding that they need to move ahead slowly. Howard noted that roads are fluid and a road plan may change in any direction without warning. If Pantton did go ahead and support the bypass there would be no way to stop changes in it. Howard suggested that Pantton's Planning Commission should also go slowly with any decision they make regarding the bypass. Mary noted she felt any wording change in our Town Plan should be neutral in reference to the bypass, especially because there is no firm plan as to the exact location of the road. Howard Hall suggested a special Selectboard meeting to better inform the people of Pantton about the bypass. He feels the decision should come from the town's residents not just the Selectboard or Planning Commission. The decision was made to hold a special Selectboard meeting to inform Pantton residents this meeting will be scheduled for 7-29-19 to explain what the City of Vergennes is currently planning. Adam Lougee of the Addison County Regional Planning Commission will be invited to speak at that meeting. There will be a question and answer period for the community also. Teresa Smith felt we should invite representatives from Vergennes as well to answer questions that may be asked. Brad Dewey will contact Adam Lougee to set up meeting. Bob Hartenstein asked if there is actually anything Pantton can do about the bypass. Howard Hall said Adam Lougee would have those answers.

Mary Rudd asked Howard about getting the Enhanced Energy Plan adopted as an amendment to the Town Plan. Howard Hall said that we are waiting for the completion of a Class 4 Road Ordinance and ROW Ordinance from our lawyers. Once completed these items will be worked with the EEP and added to the Town Plan at the same time. Howard Hall and Teresa Smith left at approximately 7:45pm.

Mary Rudd began discussion of the Enhanced Energy Plan. Mary noted three items for the Commission to approve:

1. The Update to the Town Plan
2. The introduction to the EEP had two typos that she repaired
3. The maps need be included in the EEP

Bob Hartenstein moved to adopt the Enhanced Energy Plan with the 3 notes Mary Rudd made. Brad Dewey second and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Bob Hartenstein moved to adjourn at 8:01pm Dave Wolniewicz second and the vote was unanimous in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Devino
Assistant Town Clerk

