

**BETHLEHEM PLANNING BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
October 28, 2015
BETHLEHEM TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM**

Present: Mike Bruno, Chris McGrath, Don Lavoie, Steve Gorman, Andrea Bryant, Dave Wiley and Jeanne Robillard.

Excused: Marie Stevenson and Sandy Laleme

Mike calls the meeting to order at 6:00 and appoints Don Lavoie as full board member for Marie.

The board reviews the minutes from 10/14/2015.

Motion made by Steve Gorman, seconded by Chris McGrath, to approve the minutes as submitted. Dave Wiley abstains from the vote due to absence and the remaining members vote in favor. Minutes from 10/14/2015 are approved.

Mike reviews the budget with the board and explains to the board that there has been a shift in the clerk's duties which allows the board 5 more hours of her time.

Motion made by Dave Wiley, seconded by Don Lavoie to approve the 2016 budget for final submission to the Select Board. All members vote in favor, motion carries.

The board reviews the dimensional standards for District 1 Main Street. In light of the discussion on 10/14/2015 and the vote to change the lot coverage ordinance the board recommends changing the District 1 Main Street Dimensional Standards from, *"Any lawful non-conforming building or other structure located in District 1- Main Street may be exempt from the dimensional standards for setback and frontage be by special exception granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustments;"* to, *"Any lawful non-conforming building or other structure located in District 1 – Main Street may be exempt from the dimensional standards for setback, frontage, and lot coverage by special exception granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustments."*

The board reviews the wording for the proposed warrant article for the district change of Thornhill Rd and suggests the article read, *"Are you in favor of the adoption of the zoning amendment as proposed by the planning board as follows: Amend the Official Zoning Map of the Town of Bethlehem, as described in Article V, Section A of the Bethlehem, NH Zoning Ordinance by changing the zoning classification of a portion of Town of Bethlehem Tax Map 406 from District III to District II. This includes all parcels located on Thornhill Road."*

The board discussed dates for the first public hearing.

Motion by Don Lavoie to hold a Public Hearing for warrant articles to amend zoning ordinances regarding building height, lot coverage, and District 1 Main Street dimensional standards on

Wednesday, November 18, 2015 at 6:00 pm. Steve Gorman seconds the motion and all members vote in favor. Motion carries.

Motion made by Don Lavoie and seconded by Dave Wiley, to hold a public hearing on Wednesday, November 18, 2015 for the discussion of a warrant article for the adoption of a zoning amendment proposing a change for all property located on Thornhill Rd, located on tax map 406, to read: *“Amend the Official Zoning Map of the Town of Bethlehem, as described in Article V, Section A of the Bethlehem, NH Zoning Ordinance by changing the zoning classification of a portion of Town of Bethlehem Tax Map 406 from District III to District II. This includes all parcels located on Thornhill Road.”* Don, Dave, Andrea, Mike and Steve vote in favor and Chris is not in favor, motion carries.

Mike informs the board that Bretzfelder Memorial Park Committee Chair Nancy Czarny has sent him an email requesting a member of the Planning Board be selected as a representative to the committee. Andrea volunteers to be a Planning Board representative if the remainder of the board approves.

Motion made by Dave Wiley that the Planning Board chair appoint a representative to the Bretzfelder Memorial Park Committee. Steve Gorman seconds the motion and all members vote in favor. Motion carries.

Planning Board Chair Mike Bruno appoints Andrea Bryant as the Planning Board representative to the Bretzfelder Memorial Park Committee.

Dawn leaves the meeting at 6:40. June Garneau will take notes for the Master Plan portion of the meeting.

The board discusses the following as it pertains to the Master Plan:

1. Chapter 1 - Future Land Use section

- a. June will add map of future land use
- b. Read over summary
- c. Adjusted Goals section
- d. All parking issues minimized to include Town Offices only; there is nothing that can be done by the Town about the Post Office and the School. Also, parking issues are to be moved to the Community Facilities section
- e. There was some discussion about “keeping the small town feel” ...egg farms or other large farms are not rural and could take away the small town feel.
- f. Study the establishment of residential districts
- g. Never got to the landfill section; Andrea & Jeanne are still “tweaking it”; June has the copy from Sandy and will forward it to Team along with Andrea & Jeanne’s copy as soon as it is received.

2. Chapter 2 – Transportation

- a. Truck speed and “Jake Brakes” were discussed
 - i. Post law enforcement near school and buckle down on speeding trucks
 - ii. Lobby state to get “no jake brake zone” signs for either end of town

- iii. Consider a “no jake brake zone” in the Town’s ordinances
- b. Trudeau, Brook and Old Franconia Roads thought to be the busiest town roads
- c. Don thought the Master Plan is too detailed and has too much “cutting & pasting”; it should be much more concise and include mostly recommendations
- d. There was some discussion about the need for history and current conditions in the Master Plan; caution was expressed by June, Andrea & Jeanne about taking too much out of the Plan
- e. Discussed taking NH Long Range Transportation Plan, NH Ten-Year Improvement Plan, NH Road Functional Classification out of plan as they are now, but putting in language that will provide knowledge that they exist and references so that those who want more information can get it.
- f. Added several new goal “ideas”
 - i. Added goal for Site Plan Regulation to look at private road specs
 - ii. An ordinance about jake brakes
 - iii. Adding more law enforcement in front of school to enforce speed limit
 - iv. Repair Old Franconia Road
 - v. Review road regulations so that roads must meet town specs before they go to Town Meeting for approval
 - vi. Encourage safety and maintenance of all roads, particularly private roads
 - vii. Provide solutions to the parking at the band concerts
- g. Snowmobile and bicycle paths/trails were discussed as part of Transportation
 - i. It was recommended that the serious of sections about snowmobiling, bicycling, hiking and ATVs should be in the “Recreation” section of the Plan, not the transportation section
 - ii. It was mentioned that more snowmobile trails to downtown would increase revenue for Main Street businesses
 - iii. June assigned specific homework to try to keep the process moving and asked that these “paragraphs” be sent to her by Sunday; she would include them in the Plan and send the Plan to the Team Sunday or Monday
 - 1. Dave & Mike to write about “Snowmobiling”
 - 2. Don to write about “Bicycling”
 - 3. Chris & Dave to write about “Hiking”
 - 4. Mike to write about “Pedestrian Infrastructure”
 - 5. Jeanne to write about “Parking”
 - iv. June asked the Team to try to do the following before the next meeting on Nov. 18th; all will be forwarded via email by June when ready; June strongly urged the Team to do their homework so that we can keep this moving forward.
 - 1. Review the entire Plan and note any desired changes
 - 2. Review the copy from both Sandy and Andrea/Jeanne about the Landfill
 - 3. Review Shelburne’s “Housing” section versus the Bethlehem Old Plan
 - 4. Review Shelburne’s “Economy” section versus the Bethlehem Old Plan

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Ferringo
 Planning and Zoning Board Clerk