

These minutes are subject to possible correction/revision at a subsequent
Exeter Planning Board meeting

Exeter Planning Board

Draft Minutes

July 10, 2014

1. Ken Knowles called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm in the Nowak Room of the Exeter Town Offices on the above date.
2. BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Katherine Woolhouse, Don Clement (BOS), Ken Knowles (Chair), Kelly Bergeron (Vice Chair), Gwen English. TOWN STAFF PRESENT: Sylvia von Aulock (Town Planner), Sarah McGraw (Recording Secretary).
3. NEW BUSINESS: PUBLIC HEARINGS

The application of the Exeter School District for a non-residential site plan review of proposed site improvements at the Lincoln Street and Main Street school facilities. The proposed improvements include the relocation of the bus access roads, additional parking, relocation of existing playgrounds and one of the existing baseball fields and associated drainage improvements. The subject properties are located at 25-27 Lincoln Street and 40 Main Street, in the R-2, Single Family Residential zoning district. Tax Map Parcel # 73-293 and #73-303. Case #21413

Mr. Clement motioned to open case# 21413 second by Ms. Bergeron. VOTE: Unanimous Ms. Katherine Woolhouse excused herself to the audience.

Ms. Jennifer Hale of Tighe and Bond spoke on behalf of the Exeter School District about the safety changes to be made to tax map parcel 73-293. There will be an increase in impervious surface with 88 spaces gains at both schools. Storm water mitigation will be put in place along with a gravel wetland and cohesive access to flow.

Board Questions

Mr. Clement commended the school for taking care of the issues with the parking lot. He commented that they should take care of the mitigation with drainage.

Ms. Hale said the design of the lot was to handle peak drainage. Mr. Clement asked if the gravel wetland was meant to drain towards the main pipe and if they had solved where the wet areas went over the road.

Mr. Richard Wendell with the Exeter School District said the storm drain was near the wetland.

Ms. Hale said the existing wetland is slated to be filled as approved by the State of New Hampshire. They plan to mitigate with porous pavement and wetland design. She also commented that the athletic field will be topped with 12 inches of sand layer to pull off more drainage.

Mr. Knowles asked about the changes to the headwall. Ms. Hale said it was the same elevation.

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Ms. English was concerned about the wetland south of the porous pavement. Ms. Hale said it was not quite a wetland.

Mr. Clement asked what the asphalt was made of and Ms. Hale responded it was bituminous. Ms. English asked why not put more pervious pavement down and Mr. Knowles followed up by how they chose the pavement.

Ms. Hale said it had to do with cost, and heavy traffic flow. Ms. English added there were other benefits to porous pavement such as high ice melt. Mr. Wendell said the engineers felt they had provided enough drainage and if they can afford more porous pavement they will take it the town budget.

Mr. Clement said outside parking with porous could be a maintenance issue. Mr. Wendell said only using salt was a better solution to melting the ice instead of sand and salt.

Mr. Knowles asked if on the layout plan a portion where the sidewalk ends will stay in place as it was not on the plan.

Mr. Wendell said the sidewalk will stay and Ms. Hale said she will add it to the plans as a correction.

Ms. English asked if the bus could go around the parked cars. Mr. Wendell said it did not interfere with parked cars the buses can now go around. He also mentioned the Walsh field being moved to Lincoln Street. The lower parking is addressed in phase 2 using the other fields for Jr. League until the new field is constructed.

Mr. Knowles asked how the bus drop off will be coordinated with phase 1 construction happening into the upcoming school year. Mr. Wendell said they will have to rearrange the bussing.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Andrea Richards who lives across from Lincoln Street said she likes the plan. She asked about the exit point next to the gym and if it will remain gated. Mr. Wendell said it will remain a gated area.

Ms. Woolhouse of 32 Main Street asked what portion of students use the bus. Mr. Wendell said he did not have the numbers for students who ride the bus. Ms. Woolhouse also asked about the outcome of the Walsh field. Mr. Wendell said there will be a separate play area than the bus traffic with barriers to drivers.

Phil Litter of 17 Lincoln Street commented that parents drop off kids in front of his house and said it was a good system. He asked what they would do with a perfect budget. Mr. Wendell said they would be starting on phase 2.

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Anne von Kuan of Front Street asked if the woods were staying in a part of the plan. Mr. Wendell said they are not moving the woods.

Zoe Richards of Exeter asked about the pedestrian drive way to the parking lot. Mr. Wendell said the public can enter through Front Street.

Ms. Von Aulock asked about the lighting plan. Ms. Hale responded the lights will be dark sky compliant. Ms. von Aulock also asked about the outdoor maintenance manual. Ms. Hale said she would provide a copy.

Ms. von Aulock asked if they could begin the buffer earlier than phase 2. Mr. Wendell said it should not be a problem.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The June 5, and June 26 2014 minutes were tabled to the next meeting.
5. OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Knowles said they will take the August meeting to go over the all boards details and add anything to change on article.

Ms. von Aulock said at the September meeting they will hear from departments about the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP).

Mr. Knowles said the September 5 meeting will be a work session and September 11 meeting will be the CIP and work session with no additional public hearings.

6. Town Planner's Items: None
7. Committee Reports:

Mr. Knowles said the Workforce Housing Coalition is looking for community liaisons.

Ms. English reported at the Rockingham Regional Planning Commission meeting there was talk about transportation grants. The TAP grant is for on and off road facilities, infrastructure for safe routes and abandoned railroad trail projects. The deadline is August 6 for pre application and final application is September 26, 2014.

Ms. von Aulock said these type of transportation grants can be time consuming. It might be worthwhile to work on a regional bikeway with other towns.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

Stephen Herzog from AMEC spoke about a Unitil project to run an interstate gas pipeline through parts of Exeter. Mel Chula with Unitil explained they want to install a gas distribution pipe between existing services with no wetland impact. Mel asked the planning board if they need Conditional Use Permit for work done along the road.

Mr. Knowles said it does require a CUP even though there is little impact there is no "escape" plan even for small projects. There is no project exemption. Mr. Chula said they hope to start at the end of August.

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Mr. Knowles said they still need to notify abutters about the project. Ms. English asked about the length of the pipeline. Mr. Herzog said it would be three miles.

Ms. von Aulock said the project requires a CUP as it says in the regulations when there is constructions along roads and utility disturbance.

Mr. Herzog asked if they could get on the first September agenda. Mr. Knowles said they could be put on the end of the August 11 meeting.

Mr. Chula said they will go to DPW to talk details.

*Mr. Clement moved to adjourn the meeting, second by Ms. Bergeron. **VOTE:** Unanimous*

The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Sarah McGraw