

TOWN OF BENNINGTON  
PLANNING BOARD  
Minutes of the Meeting- September 12, 2011

Present        Jeffrey Rose, Chairman  
                 Philip Germain, Ex-Officio  
                 Susan Smith

Guests        Dennis McKenney  
                 Christopher Stewart, Francestown Sand & Gravel  
                 Lisa Stewart, Francestown Sand & Gravel  
                 Melissa Stewart, Francestown Sand & Gravel  
                 Christopher Danforth

Chairman Rose called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m.

The minutes of the August 22, 2011 meeting were reviewed and accepted as written.

The Public Hearing- SP11/02- a Site Plan Review for Francestown Sand & Gravel located at 200 Francestown Road in Bennington was called to order at 7:41 p.m. The proposed plans for an active log yard were reviewed. It was noted that the Stewarts' plan to have a good yard manager and work in conjunction with a local logger. It is estimated that the yard will produce a maximum of 60 truck trips per week. There will be no processing of the logs, just a storage site. The proposed area to be used is an open area that is listed as use for stockpile for gravel. It was noted that log storage is not covered under the gravel regulations. The hours of operation will not change.

The Board reviewed the Site Plan checklist. All that was applicable has been received. The checklist was complete.

Dennis McKenney stated that he was in favor and this would be a favorable business in Town. Mr. McKenney stated that this addition would be helpful to his business as well.

Philip Germain made a motion to accept the application as submitted. All were in favor and the permit was granted. A check in the amount of \$229.00 was received.

Dennis McKenney inquired about the Wetlands permitting process and the need for a Town Wetlands Ordinance. Mr. McKenney expressed his opinion that the existing rules and regulations are adequate and he is not in favor of a new ordinance. Susan Smith stated that she feels that there should be a specific ordinance. Susan Smith stated that she has gotten copies of the surrounding towns' Wetlands Ordinances for the Planning Board to review. Susan Smith will attend a Conservation Commission Committee Meeting.

The minutes of the July 25, 2011 meeting were reviewed and accepted as written.

The Planning Board will invite the Department Heads to attend the September 26, 2011 meeting for input on updating the Master Plan. A letter will be sent to the Department Heads stating the purpose to direct their areas of interest and departmental needs. A deadline of October 30, 2011 will be given for input. The Board is looking for the existing conditions and needs such as equipment, personnel, and potential expansion and growth. This is not intended to be a wish list.

The Board reviewed the budget for 2012. A request will be made to shift money from the miscellaneous line item, to the Master Plan line item. The overall budget will stay the same as 2011.

There being no other business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Debra Belcher  
Planning Board Recording Secretary