



TOWN OF PLYMPTON, MASSACHUSETTS PLANNING BOARD

Plympton Planning Board – Minutes – August 5, 2020

Meeting opened at 5:00 p.m. members present A. Sobolewski, J. Cohen; J. Schmid

Mr. D'Angelo arrived at 5:14

Ms. MacDonald arrived at 5:40

1. 5:00 Continued Public Hearing – BE RE, LLC for Site Plan Approval to construct a proposed solar facility under Zoning Bylaw Section 6.10- Solar Facilities – dual use with cranberry bogs on land identified as 131/137 Ring Road, owned by Roger A. Correira M/B/L 8/2/29.

David Kelley Meridian Associates has submitted a written request for a continuance.

Ms. Sobolewski moves to continue the public hearing to Wednesday September 2, 2020 at 5:30 pm. Mr. D'Angelo seconds - unanimous.

2. 5:30 Continued Public Hearing – BE RE, LLC for Site Plan Approval to construct a proposed solar facility under Zoning Bylaw Section 6.10- Solar Facilities – dual use with cranberry bogs on land identified as 126 Ring Road, owned by Wayne Dunham M/B/L 8/1/27 and 27A.

David Kelley Meridian Associates has submitted a written request for a continuance.

Ms. Sobolewski moves to continue the public hearing to Wednesday September 2, 2020 at 5:35 pm. Mr. Cohen seconds - unanimous

3. 6:18 Continued Public Hearing -- Continued Public Hearing 399 Main Street – Site Plan Review for Large Scale Photovoltaic Project.

Brandon Smith of Borrego appeared on behalf of the Applicant. Mr. Smith provided materials to respond to the peer review comments. He stated that new wetlands have been delineated to the north along main street and the wetlands to the rear of the property. They have shifted the panels toward the road into the paddock a bit.

The peer reviewer requested cross sections from neighboring properties. These have been provided in the new submission. They are proposing a landscaped buffer consisting of a berm with evergreen plantings -- a line of black spruce that will be six feet tall at planting. A total of 45 trees. There is existing vegetation that they are planning to leave in front of the spruce trees. They are planning to put the trees at grade.

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The applicant requests a continuance. Ms. Sobolewski moves to continue the public hearing until September 2, 2020 at 5:45 p.m. Mr. D'Angelo seconds. Vote is unanimous.

4. New Business

61 Upland Road -- Brandon Smith of Borrego Solar appears to present minor modifications to a solar array that he stated was previously approved in May 2018. He provides a letter dated May 14, 2018 as evidence of approval. He explains that at the time of the permitting, there were two options on the approved plans to enter the property on Upland Road or an interconnection off of Brook Street. This modification selects one of those entrances and makes some other changes as a result of the Conservation Commission proceedings on the application.

Mr. D'Angelo noted that at the time of the original hearing, the neighbors were particularly concerned about the interconnection being off of Brook Street. Mr. Smith states that both options were approved in the Site Plan Review process and they are choosing to go forward with the Upland Road access.

Mr. Schmid asks whether the Upland Road access has changed from the prior plan. Mr. Smith states that the access has changed somewhat. The new road flips the location of the utility poles and it will now run to the east instead of to the west.

Mr. Schmid asks whether there will be clearing for the new road. Mr. Smith states that there will not be additional tree clearing for that access road.

Mr. Smith states that most of the other changes are decreases from the previously approved plans. Mr. Schmid asks whether the abutters participated in the Conservation Commission hearings. Mr. Smith does not recall whether the abutters participated.

The Board discusses the applicants request for a minor modification and whether or not the proposed changes would be considered a minor modification.

Ms. Sobolewski suggests that we have the hearing on Wednesday September 2, 2020 at 5:40 and Mr. Smith agrees.

5. Old Business:

The board reviewed the draft minutes for the June 10, 2020 meeting. Ms Sobolewski moves to accept the Minutes as written, Mr. D'Angelo seconds, vote is unanimous in favor.

Bills are reviewed and warrants issued for payment.

6:40 p.m. Motion to adjourn made by Ms. Sobolewski, Mr. Cohen seconds unanimous vote in favor.