

Town of Hinesburg
Planning Commission
November 27th, 2013
Approved 1-8-14

Members Present: Maggie Gordon, Joe Iadanza, Kyle Bostwick, Bob Linck, Johanna White, Aaron Kimball.

Members Absent: Grace Ciffo, Tim Clancy, Jean Isham.

Also present: Alex Weinhagen (Director of Planning & Zoning), Freeda Powers (Recording Secretary).

Public Present: Bill Marks.

Joe I. chaired the meeting which was called to order at 7:34p.m. Joe I started the meeting by asking if there were any public comments for non-agenda items. There were none.

VT Gas Systems – State wetlands permit application:

Alex W. explained to the Board that there is a hearing on 12/18 at CVU and said there is a lot of material available on the drop-box for them to view if interested. Together, the Board viewed large maps via the projector of the entire project area (Sheets 35-49). Bob L. asked if the project is within the VELCO corridor. Alex W. said mostly, but not entirely. Maggie G. wondered if and how the project might impact the upcoming Carse subdivision application. Alex W. said Mr. Carse has been in discussions with VT Gas in regards to trespass, but he does not know any further details. He said he does not believe the project will impact the subdivision application.

The Board viewed specific areas of the project as they relate to Hinesburg and its surrounding areas. One of those areas was the Geprag property, as it relates to wetland and buffer zones. Alex W. said there are very few acres of impact within the town of Hinesburg, according to the projects' report. However, the Board noted the "matted" area denoted in the maps—ostensibly showing areas to protect or repair from impacts.

Another property the Board looked at was the Carse land and it's relation to the VELCO line that Bob L. had mentioned.

The Board viewed where the project is planned to pass over the LA Platte River. The project is going to cross Lewis Creek, as well (south of Baldwin Rd & Drinkwater).

Aaron K. inquired about maintenance of the pipeline once it is installed. Joe I. said they did talk about that at one of the previous hearings. Aaron K. said there is going to be some impact from

the project. Joe I. said that is likely, and noted that it appears the pipeline actually runs parallel to the VELCO line, not in it.

The Board viewed a copy of the application for Individual Wetland Permit (#2012-184). Alex W. said he does not know the Select Boards' stance on the project and encouraged the board members to inquire with Phil Pouech or Joe Colangelo for that discussion. Bob L. asked if the topic had been posted on tonight's agenda to inform or should the Planning Commission have a stance? Joe I. said there is clearly some portion of land in Hinesburg that will be impacted by the project. The Board agreed. Joe I. asked Alex W. how wide is the corridor? Alex W. said an estimate answer would be 50'. Joe I. said he is not sure what bases the Commission would go on. Bob L. said he is inclined to find out from the Select Board if there is anything they need information, feedback or discussion from the Planning Commission.

Alex W. said without a permit, the project cannot move forward. He said he believes Phil P. has been involved on the public service aspect of the project. Johanna W. said she has recently read that the only projects in the U.S. that get through without entities getting involved is the gas lines. So she wonders, is this something we can do? Alex W. said he would assume that they are allowing input for some reason, but reminded the Board that input must be substantive. Johanna W. agreed to get in contact with Phil P.

Minutes of the November 13th 2013 Meeting:

Johanna W. made a **motion to approve the minutes of 11/13/13 as written.** Bob L. **seconded the motion.** Aaron K. abstained from the vote as he was not present at the 10/9 meeting. The board voted **6-0.**

Other Business:

Alex W. told the Board that the town of Shelburne will have a hearing on 12/12 re: Zoning Changes.

Alex W. also said that the Rural Area Zoning issue got brought up at a recent Select Board meeting at which Tom Ayer spoke out at the end of the meeting. Joe Colangelo corresponded with Alex W. and decided that at the 12/16 meeting there will be time to discuss the topic as a warned agenda item. Alex W. said anyone who wants to should touch base with Tom A. to discuss the issue. Aaron K. said he has seen a copy of the motion made and has told Tom A. that his opinion is that if there are things in the proposal they did not like, those items should be specific so that the Planning Commission can address, network, improve and get back to the Select Board. He said he did not feel that the motion made was the way to go about it. Alex W. likened it to the Village Growth Area proposal in 2009; in that process, the Select Board gave to the Planning Commission a set of clear issues to do just that. Joe I. said he would be okay with that, but he can't favor a motion that guts a proposal and the Town Plan that it was founded on. He said the Town Plan is a larger view; in the case of the VGA, we (PC) had to do some technical revisions of the mechanics of the proposal. He

said he can see the same case for the RAZ proposal. Aaron K. said it is not likely that they will have a complete consensus but if improvements can be made, he at least is willing to work further on it.

Grace C. said she would like to be on the Dec. 10th meeting agenda with Tim C. to discuss their District (RR2).

Bob L. made a **motion to adjourn**. Johanna W. **seconded the motion**. The board voted **6-0**. The meeting ended at 8:25pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Freedra Powers--Recording Secretary