

**PLANNING BOARD
APRIL 16, 2015
MINUTES**

Chairman Barringer called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM at the Town Hall

Members present: Barringer, Giger, Perkins, and Vega,

Member absent: Burke, Svarczkopf, and Wilson

REPORTS TO SPRING TOWN MEETING

Articles 31 & 32 - The Board reviewed the slide presentation for Articles 31 Site Plan Review and Article 32 Temporary Permits. Chairman Barringer will do the presentation and the Planning Board report on both articles.

Article 27 – The Board voted at its meeting on April 2, 2015 to support the rezoning of the Tarbell School property, 73 Pepperell Road, sponsored by the Board of Selectmen. Member Vega will present the Planning Board's report.

Article 33 - The Board voted at its meeting on March 26, 2015 to support the rezoning of Peter Norton's property, 152-158 Boston Road, sponsored by Citizens' Petition. Member Vega will present the Planning Board's report.

SIDEWALK EXTENSIONS

The Planning Board learned that MassDOT will be repaving Route 119 from the Littleton town line to the Pepperell town line. If funds are available and no land takings required, MassDOT may extend the sidewalks to the north from the Middle School to Mill Run Plaza and to the south from Old Ayer Road to CVS/Emerson Medical offices.

The motion was made by Perkins, seconded by Vega, to send a letter to MassDOT requesting that the sidewalks be extended as envisioned in the Comprehensive Master Plan and as supported in the various Special Permit/Site Plan Review decisions requesting sidewalk easements for properties along Route 119. The motion passed unanimously.

PROPOSED ZONING AMENDMENT – FALL TOWN MEETING

The Board will work the proposed amendment to Section 218-23 Off-Street Parking and Loading for presentation at the 2015 Fall Town Meeting. Chairman Barringer and Member Burke will work on drafting the amendment. Board members will assist in updating the inventory of existing parking spaces delineated by Fay, Spofford and Thorndike (FST) and the Parking Subcommittee in the 2008 Station Avenue Overlay District project.

Member Perkins said, for the record, that the Board appreciates the efforts made by Chairman Barringer, Selectman Anna Eliot, Town Manager Mark Haddad, and others on working with the Bank of America and Citizens Bank to combine their parking lots off Main Street and Station Avenue. The project is subject to funding to be voted on at the 2015 Spring Town Meeting.

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VERIZON WIRELESS EQUIPMENT ON TELECOMMUNICATION TOWER, 149 LOWELL ROAD

The Board reviewed a request from the Building Commissioner on whether a special permit is required for Verizon Wireless to replace equipment on the tower on Gibbet Hill, 149 Lowell Road. The Board also received an email message from Town Counsel David Doneski on April 16, 2015 with an attached handout prepared by Kopelman & Paige for the 2015 Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) Annual Meeting. The Board will meet with Attorney Carol Holahan, representing Verizon Wireless, on April 23, 2015.

SUMMER SCHEDULE

The Board discussed starting its summer schedule in May rather than June. The motion was made by Perkins, seconded by Vega, that the Board meet every other week from May – August. The motion passed unanimously. The Town Planner will prepare a draft list of meeting dates for the Board's review at its meeting on April 23, 2015.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Collette
Land Use Director/Town Planner