

PLANNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 27, 2020

PRESENT: Steven Strojny, Elmer Clegg, Daniel Doucette, John Carroll, Jeanne Azarovitz, Sandra Goldstein, Elizabeth Brown, David O'Connor, William Meier (alternate)

EXCUSED: Lou Gallo

Staff: Coreen Moore, Jennifer Copeland, Tim Lydon

Public: Meredith Wotka, MJ Mastrangelo, Liza Cox, and other members of the public

Chairman Strojny called the meeting to order at 7:05pm.

This meeting was conducted by Zoom access.

Mr. Clegg made a MOTION to take business out of order and hear #4 first. The MOTION was seconded by Mr. Doucette. Roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Brown – yes	Ms. Azarovitz – yes	Ms. Goldstein – yes
Mr. Carroll –yes	Mr. Gallo – absent	Mr. Clegg – yes
Mr. Doucette – yes	Mr. O'Connor – yes	Mr. Strojny – yes

Public Hearing for Definitive Subdivision: Cont'd from 6/11/20. Robert and Andrea McKnight. 410 Wings Neck Rd., Pocasset. Two lots.

Chm. Strojny read a letter from Bracken Engineering into the record requesting to withdraw without prejudice.

Mr. Doucette made a MOTION to accept the withdrawal without prejudice, seconded by Ms. Brown. Roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Brown – yes	Ms. Azarovitz – yes	Ms. Goldstein – yes
Mr. Carroll –yes	Mr. Gallo – absent	Mr. Clegg – yes
Mr. Doucette – yes	Mr. O'Connor – yes	Mr. Strojny – yes

Ms. Brown made a MOTION to go back in order, seconded by Mr. Clegg. Roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Brown – yes	Ms. Azarovitz – yes	Ms. Goldstein – yes
Mr. Carroll –yes	Mr. Gallo – absent	Mr. Clegg – yes
Mr. Doucette – yes	Mr. O'Connor – yes	Mr. Strojny – yes

Minutes: 10/10/19 – Ms. Brown made a MOTION to approve seconded by Mr. Doucette.

Mr. Clegg: Have some uncertainty on these I'd like to discuss with Ann. Can we continue to the next meeting?

Chm. Strojny: We'll table it for now.

8/13/20 – Mr. Clegg made a MOTION to approve and keep them encumbered. The MOTION was seconded by Ms. Brown.

Roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Azarovitz - yes	Ms. Brown - yes	Ms. Goldstein – yes
Mr. Doucette – yes	Mr. Carroll – yes	Mr. O'Connor – abstain
Mr. Gallo – absent	Mr. Clegg – yes	Mr. Strojny – yes

4/25/19 exec session, – Ms. Brown made a MOTION to approve and keep them encumbered. The MOTION was seconded by D. Doucette. Roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Azarovitz – yes	Ms. Brown - yes	Ms. Goldstein – yes
Mr. Doucette – yes	Mr. Carroll – yes	Mr. O’Connor – abstain
Mr. Gallo – absent	Mr. Clegg – yes	Mr. Strojny – yes

10/24/19 exec session – Mr. Doucette made a MOTION to approve and keep them encumbered. The MOTION was seconded by D. Doucette. Roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Azarovitz - abstain	Ms. Brown - abstain	Ms. Goldstein – yes
Mr. Doucette – yes	Mr. Carroll – yes	Mr. O’Connor – abstain
Mr. Gallo – absent	Mr. Clegg – yes	Mr. Strojny – yes

Complete Streets: Tim Lydon

Read part of the Mass.gov complete streets description. Provides safe and accessible options for all travel modes for people of all ages and abilities. Funding program provides technical assistance and construction funding to eligible municipalities. Eligible municipalities must pass a complete streets policy and develop a prioritization plan. Have an agreement with the State that we have a complete streets policy on file that we’ve adopted and looking for a positive motion to go back to the Selectmen with. Always thought transportation needs were addressed. Pg. 45 of LCP: Encourage alternatives to driving. Main driver of this policy is to get funding. The reality says there are exceptions; current or future need, scenic, cost exceptionally disproportionate. I see you with this regarding private roads, gaps for walkways, bike paths, low impact development for stormwater drainage. Practical policy and takes precautions. We could get a really good project up to \$400,000 for construction. Not creating new street systems.

Ms. Goldstein: Funding – does that come every year or one time? Apply every year?

Tim: Send letter of intent, was done last year, then adopt the policy, need to pass by 11/4 of this year. Think one shot and done, but doesn’t mean they won’t do another round. We would also get technical assistance up to \$50,000 and we’d work with the Cape Cod Commission as they are certified for that. Funded by the State transportation bill.

MJ: Is the policy under consideration now the same that was proposed to the BOS?

Tim: Yes.

MJ: I had written about some concerns and was asked to be notified when it was coming back. Public hearing didn’t happen due to COVID in March, I have a lot of concerns. Good idea, add bicycles, apply for funding, concerned because we don’t accept public roads. Then asking people to do the upkeep and uphold to certain standards, is difficult. Conundrum given the way Bourne operates. Bigger problem in Bourne. Nice to go after state money but have to be careful of how the policy is worded and what we are trying to accomplish. I don’t want to rush to adopt a policy that could put us into a problem later. We are facing huge capital problems and putting it on the people/developers forever? I just have a lot of concerns.

Chm. Strojny: Yes, the road situation in town is a mess. We are asked to make a positive recommendation to the Selectmen. Think the Board sees this as a good program overall for the Town. Thank you for your comments.

Mr. Clegg: MJ’s comments leave me in a quandary. Can you state what you think the bigger problem is?

MJ: Unaccepted road problem, stopped in the 90’s. Private roads vs unaccepted roads. Only one road in town is “private”. The rest are unaccepted roads that are open to the public. Huge roads are facing

problems. Even roads that were privately paid to be brought up to standards were told they aren't going to be accepted. We have roads that we can't keep up with and Ch. 90 funds don't cover it. DPW has been asking for additional money for years. The policy that was a model for this was the Sandwich Policy. There are other policies and I sent to the Board of Selectmen. Need more public input on this. Maybe accept the policy and fix it later? How are we going to answer the questions, what obligations is the Planning Board going to be under?

Tim: I understand other policies. This is a MA DOT project and they have a scoring system. Need 80 out of 100 points. 90% of the stuff is the same in all the policies I looked at. Not looking to older roads, talking about new subdivisions that fill a gap, have CCC create a bike plan for us. Over \$1,000,000 on Barlows Landing we are doing. There's an intersection there that could have used this money. Signs, pavement markings, paving, sidewalks, etc. Know there is a problem with unaccepted roads, and know what the climate is in Town. This is not for roads we have today. As we grow with this policy, I believe this is the direction the Town should go in. I'd like to you approve this policy.

MJ: If this is adopted, that the Town commit if the PB is going to request a developer to create a street under the complete streets model that it gets accepted by the Town. There are a lot of roads that would like to be accepted as public ways. It was done for cost cutting back in the 80's. If ask people to put in extra money and accommodations on a new road, think should be accepted.

Mr. Clegg: If a subdivision comes before us and we require that accommodation, we can make it a condition that it goes to town meeting. It has to be accepted through town meeting vote. I agree with most of what MJ said. I agree with the scope of unaccepted roads. Sooner or later this town will have to face up to the unaccepted road situation and they will become a major safety hazard to the Town. If we accept the policy, I don't see how it will affect the unaccepted road situation. However, we can become vocal about it.

Ms. Goldstein: Don't developers have to make the roads up to standards that won't fail in 5-7 years? Proper drainage, underlayment, etc? I see a lot of subdivisions where the roads are a mess. No road can last forever without maintenance. Heavy trucks take a lot of life out of a road.

Coreen: When a subdivision comes before the PB, the developer will ask for waivers and they are granted many times. The Town is leery of accepting the roads because they get the waivers too. Different if say no lights, asphalt curbs, etc. but when ask for multiple waivers...Where does the road go, what does it connect to? May not want to waive anything. If goes to a couple of houses, may not want to take it. The people that front on that road and who will get the benefits if improved/taken? Not always going to town meeting, the people that live on that road have to vote for betterment, etc. Barlows Landing, Shore Rd, any road used by the majority of the public.

Ms. Goldstein: Very helpful, thank you. Barlows Landing Rd. What improvements are planned?

Tim: We had the first phase paved, study was done a few years ago. Barlows and Shore Rd intersection: Site corners narrow, stop sign location, etc. Would have been a good place for the money from this.

Ms. Goldstein: If you mean redesigning that intersection, so many places to get out of the Corner Café lot.

Tim: Will have a public input session. Want to make sure look at other areas of town that we don't know about. This will be very important.

Ms. Goldstein: When increase the commerce in an area, other problems arise. The public needs to be aware of what policy we are making. Not against it, just have some questions about the broad nature of it.

Mr. Carroll: Complete streets policy and unaccepted roads and where this would take effect. Not every time come to an intersection. Can't remake Bourne. Think has so much leeway to help us do something we haven't done yet and want in our pocket so can use pieces of it and guidance from it to help make

decisions about what we're going to build. Don't need to worry that this will be an imposition on a project.

Ms. Brown: This goes beyond what the Planning Board does. Near the schools, no sidewalks, etc. We are not the whole picture. Look favorably.

Ms. Azarovitz: Would like to commute by bike or walk and now have a son that is blind. Main St, needs new crosswalks, etc. to help our citizens.

MJ: Not against Complete Streets, lots of benefit, Chapter 90 money spent on maintenance of roads that we can't keep up with. If the policy can clarify that Complete Streets can be repaired with Complete Street funding. Bringing roads to town meeting for acceptance, the problem is the administration of the Town has not allowed that.

Ms. Goldstein: I have some concerns about the application of it. I think there are other situations that may apply.

Ms. Brown made a MOTION to support and make a positive recommendation to the Board of Selectmen. The MOTION was seconded by Mr. Doucette. Roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Azarovitz - yes	Ms. Brown - yes	Ms. Goldstein – abstain
Mr. Doucette – yes	Mr. Carroll – yes	Mr. O'Connor – yes
Mr. Gallo – absent	Mr. Clegg – yes	Mr. Strojny – yes

DRC Appointments

There are two applicants for reappointment and two open seats. This was advertised. Due to the virus and we wanted to get an ad out there, we delayed the appointment. Important to move forward.

Coreen: Advertised in the paper and on the website. Marie Oliva expires 2022, Doug Shearer, this year, Dave O'Connor 2022, Pam Matheson, not running again, Jeanne Azarovitz this year and a vacant alternate member that has never been filled. This Committee recommends designs of signs and buildings to Boards. 5 members and one alternate. These members are appointed for a term of 3 years. My suggestion reappoint those and further look for others to fill the other two slots.

William Meier: Would consider if you take it into consideration of me as an active member of the DRC.

Chm. Strojny: Based on may things you've done for the town, think would be a valuable member.

Mr. Doucette: The term you're looking for, what year would the term expire?

Coreen: 2023 for anyone being appointed tonight.

Mr. Doucette made a MOTION to appoint Doug Shearer, Jeanne Azarovitz and William Meier to the DRC. The MOTION was seconded by Mr. Carroll. Roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Azarovitz - yes	Ms. Brown - yes	Ms. Goldstein – yes
Mr. Doucette – yes	Mr. Carroll – yes	Mr. O'Connor – yes
Mr. Gallo – absent	Mr. Clegg – yes	Mr. Strojny – yes

Mr. Doucette made a MOTION to adjourn. The MOTION was seconded by Ms. Goldstein. Roll call vote as follows:

Ms. Azarovitz - yes	Ms. Brown - yes	Ms. Goldstein – yes
Mr. Doucette – yes	Mr. Carroll – yes	Mr. O'Connor – yes
Mr. Gallo – absent	Mr. Clegg – yes	Mr. Strojny – yes

With no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

Respectfully submitted, Ann Gutterson