Surry Planning Board
1 Village Road
Surry, NH

Minutes; July 15, 2026
Present: Eva Morel, Ron Profaizer, Matt Goodwin, Laryssa Hiller, Laura Barrett

7:00 PM

Minutes: Ron requested a number of clarifications to his comments at the previous meeting be added to the minutes. A motion to accept the amended minutes with the clarifications was made by Eva, second by Laryssa. All in favor.

The newsletter from SWRPC was received. Laura told the board that SWRPC encourages member towns to appoint commissioners to that organization and Bruce Smith has been voluntarily attending SWRPC meetings. Bruce said that he is willing to serve as Surry's representative commissioner and that each town may appoint two. Laura made a motion to appoint Bruce Smith as Surry's commissioner to SWRPC. Second by Eva. All in favor. He will have to be approved by the selectmen.

A realtor had contacted the selectmen regarding subdividing the Costello property on Old Walpole Road. The selectmen referred her to the planning board and the ordinances on the website.

A workshop date for the planning board to examine and discuss possible changes to the Table of Uses in the Zoning Ordinance was set for August 11 at 7 PM.

The board began the continued deliberations of the proposed 11-lot subdivision by The Tree Agents on Joslin Road. Eva noted that we would not be taking more information and quickly reviewed new aspects of the proposal from the last meeting for Matt.

Eva re-iterated the concern that the traffic study does not specify winter travel separately. The explanation received at the last meeting was that because it is based on NH guidelines, it takes in all seasons that occur in NH. She further stated that we should not accept the traffic study because the engineer did not sign and place his seal on the report. She had conferred with the NH Municipal Association and was told that reports by engineers should be signed and sealed. Laura thought this was splitting hairs and asked Chuck Ritchie if we could get a signed and sealed copy of the report, which he said he could. Eva would like a third-party review of the traffic study and made a motion to request a 3rd party review to ascertain and report on the condition and adequacy of Joslin Road. Ron seconded. As part of the discussion of the motion Ron provided a written statement where he did not refute the competence of the traffic study or that Joslin Road adequately serves existing homes but questions whether the proposed development complies with the subdivision regulations IV-C as to danger or injury to health, safety or prosperity, in this instance, by reason of transportation, and that it would require excessive expenditure of public funds. He wrote that the traffic study looks at one part of the picture, volumes of traffic and their operational impact on adjacent roads, but the board must also look at public safety, which is not the same, though related. He believes that there are public safety concerns for opposing traffic on the unpaved section of Joslin Road where the road is too narrow, the sight distance on part of the hill is limited, it can be unsafe for pedestrians and schoolchildren walking to a bus stop, and emergency vehicle access is not guaranteed. Also, there will be long-term municipal maintenance obligations due to increased traffic. He also stated that the full residential potential under the zoning ordinance must be considered. Matt read Section IV-C of the subdivision regulations. Accessory dwelling units are allowed by right and duplex houses could be built at the future landowner's discretion.

Laura stated that the road is a difficult issue because there are two sections, one part is narrow, steep gravel and the other is paved and though it has a steep section, it is adequate. Since we can't control travel on the unpaved section she suggested that the town make the most dangerous section from Merriam Road to the last driveway east of Old Walpole Road on the dirt section one way traffic. Matt felt that we have enough information and he is concerned that we would be creating a potentially dangerous situation with increased traffic. Laryssa had examined expenditures for repair of Joslin Road in the past and noted that there have been frequent repairs. She did not think that the board needed more information. Laura reread Eva's motion to hire a third-party review of Joslin Road. Eva voted yes. Ron, Matt, Laryssa and Laura voted no.

Laryssa made a motion to deny the subdivision application based on Surry Subdivision Ordinance Section IV, Subsection C based on the condition of Joslin Road, this subdivision would involve danger or injury to health, safety or prosperity by reason of transportation, which would necessitate the excessive expenditure of public funds for the supply of such services. Eva seconded the motion. Matt, Eva Laryssa and Ron voted in favor, Laura opposed. The subdivision application was deni

New/Old business

Jason Anyan attended the April meeting to discuss his gravel pit permit which in renewable next year. He has some amendments that he would like to see made. The planning board will review his permit and the ordinance at the next meeting and write him a letter then. Bruce Smith noted that his land is taxed as commercial. John Berglund stated that someone needs to inspect his operation. Eva suggested a site visit. John Davis wondered if Mr. Anyan was doing recycling that required a solid waste permit. Bruce Smith said there was an old truck stored there. Steve Goldsmith mentioned there are junk cars all around town.

Ron mentioned that Zane White also should receive a letter from the planning board regarding his excavation.

When Ron is not available as an ex-officio member of the planning board, the selectmen have appointed Steve Goldsmith to serve in his place.

Ron also told us that the selectmen are looking into upgrading the internet in the town hall which may allow us to record meetings.

Meeting adjourned 9:45

Laura Barrett, Secretary