

Planning Board – Regular Meeting

Longmeadow High School Meeting Room A15 - 535 Bliss Road, Longmeadow, MA
Wednesday March 4th, 2020 7:00 p.m. after Public Hearing

Members Present: Donald Holland, Chair; Walter Gunn, Clerk; Ken Taylor, Bruce Colton, Josh Levine.

Others Present: None

The *Planning Board Regular Meeting* was called to order at 7:20 p.m. by Chair Donald Holland.

Vote - Proposed amendments to Longmeadow Zoning By-law's Article XV:

- a) Regarding the amendment that seeks to add a new definition in the (B) DEFINITIONS section (“**8. Facilities of natural gas utilities and facilities of pipeline operators include:** Pressure regulating, pressurizing, odorizing, heating and fire suppressing equipment and associated building, pipes, valves, tanks and all other equipment and materials for handling and distributing natural gas.”), Bruce Colton made a motion, which was seconded by Ken Taylor, that the Planning Board endorse and recommend that the Town Meeting adopt said proposed amendments to Longmeadow Zoning By-law’s Article XV. All in favor 5-0, motion passed.
- b) Regarding the amendment that seeks to, within section (E), delete sub-section “5. Testing and Low Frequency Noise”, Bruce Colton made a motion, which was seconded by Ken Taylor, that the Planning Board endorse and recommend that the Town Meeting adopt said proposed amendments to Longmeadow Zoning By-law’s Article XV. All in favor 5-0, motion passed.
- c) Regarding the amendment that seeks to add a last sentence in the article’s section (I) PENALTIES AND FINES (“Fines, payable to the Town, shall be imposed at the rate of \$300.00 per day, for each day that such violation continues, pursuant to M.G.L. c. 40, Section 21”), Bruce Colton made a motion, which was seconded by Josh Levine, that the Planning Board endorse and recommend that the Town Meeting adopt said proposed amendments to Longmeadow Zoning By-law’s Article XV. All in favor 5-0, motion passed.

Vote - Proposed amendment to Longmeadow Zoning By-law's Article XI, Section D, sub-section 1(m):

Regarding the amendment that seeks to delete in the aforementioned article and section the words "*A traffic study to include:*" and replace them with "*At its discretion, the Planning Board may commission an independent traffic study, to be paid for by the Applicant, which shall include:*", Bruce Colton made a motion, which was seconded by Ken Taylor, that the Planning Board endorse and recommend that the Town Meeting adopt said proposed amendment to Longmeadow Zoning By-law’s Article XI, Section D, sub-section 1(m). All in favor 5-0, motion passed.

Vote - Proposed amendment to Longmeadow Zoning By-law's Article IV, Section B, sub-section 6.6:

Regarding the amendment that seeks to add a second sentence that reads "*a connected facility is any facility for receiving, processing, and otherwise handling natural gas for sale to consumers*", Bruce Colton made a motion, which was seconded by Josh Levine, that the Planning Board endorse and recommend that the Town Meeting adopt said proposed amendment to Longmeadow Zoning By-law’s Article IV, Section B, sub-section 6.6. All in favor 5-0, motion passed.

The Planning Board unanimously endorses the proposed amendments above and will send a letter to the Town Manager and Select Board reflecting such stance.

Correspondence:

- On February 10th, 2020 the Planning Board sent a letter to the Select Board stating their recommended proposed amendments as mentioned above.

- The Board is in receipt of a Citizen Petition initiated by Mr. Curt Freedman for proposed ground-mounted solar panels, which was filed on February 23rd and discussed at the recent March 2nd Select Board meeting. A public hearing will be scheduled for April 1st and a legal notice will be published in the coming days.

Meeting Minutes Review:

1. Regular Meeting February 5th, 2020: Walter Gunn made a motion, which was seconded by Ken Taylor, to accept the minutes as presented. All in favor 5-0, motion passed.

Comments:

- The Board is aware of news reports detailing Columbia Gas' agreement to pay a criminal fine for the Merrimack Valley disaster, its cease of operations in the state and Eversource's interest in purchasing the company's assets.
- The Planning Board's website will be updated to reflect the current members' list and the Board's contact information.
- Mailed legal notices from abutting towns will be scanned and emailed to members.
- Starting this month, ZBA meetings will be recorded by the current Planning Board recorder.

Walter Gunn made a motion, and was seconded by Bruce Colton, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor 5-0 with none opposed, meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bianca Damiano