

Planning Board

Minutes

March 9, 2009

Planning Board Members Present: Denis Hebert, Peggy Lamson, Michael Marconi, Cliff Abbott, Tom Bobotas, Jack Pare, Cosmas Iocovozzi

Also Present: Town Planner Tom Morgan

Commencement: Chairman Hebert opened the meeting at 6:31 pm

Work Force Housing:

Attorney Peter Loughlin and Attorney John Ratigan were invited by the board for a discussion on work force housing.

Attorney Ratigan provided the board with copies of ordinances from East Kingston and Hampton Falls.

Chairman Hebert reviewed some of the ideas the board has on work force housing. There could be housing built over the mall or on the perimeter road. The location is good because there is transit there. There has also been some discussion of the land on Pease. However, there are cleanup and wetlands issues on Pease.

Attorney Ratigan suggested the town be proactive in exploring the potential with the mall owners. This shows a good faith effort is being made. He suggested getting in touch with the housing partnership also and perhaps having a work session.

Morgan stated that the fair share requirement was defined by Rockingham Planning as 142 units, but this may not be correct.

Iocovozzi asked if it is mandatory to address work force housing in the ordinances.

Loughlin replied that it is not, but he feels it should be.

Iocovozzi asked that if a work force housing development was denied because the water service from Portsmouth is at capacity, would that be defensible. Loughlin stated that it would be an impossibility defense provided it applied to everyone.

The board thanked Attorney Loughlin and Ratigan for their advice and ideas.

Minutes of January 12, 2009

Marconi made a motion to unseal the minutes of the non public session dated January 12, 2009, Lamson seconded, Chairman Hebert polled the board

Lamson - yes

Marconi - yes

Bobotas – yes

Abbott – yes

Hebert - yes

Pare – abstained

Motion carried.

Minutes of January 23, 2009

Marconi made a motion to approve the minutes of January 23, 2009, Lamson seconded – all in favor – motion carried.

Marconi stated his concern about board members not receiving all information intended for the planning board. He feels it is important that all the board members have the information necessary to be fully informed on a particular issue.

Abbot made a motion to adjourn, Lamson seconded – all in favor – motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Melia Perreault

Recording Secretary