

MERRIMAC PLANNING BOARD, JANUARY 9, 2018

APPROVED AS AMENDED

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Sandra Venner called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM.

ATTENDANCE: The Chair, Vice Chair Ronald Barnes, Members Karol Flannery and Keith Pollman in attendance at the call attending for the SPR Committee was Jon Pearson, Commissioner Robert Sinibaldi absent. Alternate Member John Thomas arrived at 7:45 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

1. **December 5, 2017: MOTION:** To approve the minutes of December 5, 2017 with the correction of a typo. **Vote: 4 Yes/ 0 No Motion approved.**

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **PUBLIC HEARING: Special Permit & SPR 128 West Main Street:**

Chair called the continued hearing to order at 7:40 Pm this hearing was continued from September 19, 2017 because engineering and stormwater information required by the board had not forward to the board by the applicant's engineer. The lengthy continuance was granted to allow sufficient time for the material to be prepared and forwarded from the applicant's engineering firm to the board. This material which was first requested in the spring has not been forth coming.

The applicant has requested instead through his attorney a withdrawal of the application without prejudice. The Chair questioned, Mr. DiGiacomo, if he was agreeable to the request to withdraw presented by his attorney. He answered yes, but asked if the trucks were to be housed inside at the facility would the board approve the permit. The Chair informed him that the board would not entertain this change at this time; as it would need new information and along with the prior requested information. He was reminded that he could re-apply for the Special Permit with SPR in the future.

Motion: To approve the request for withdrawal without prejudice the application for the modification of a Special Permit with SPR for Gino DiGiacomo, DBA Dolphyn Motors for property located at 128 West Main Street, for the construction a larger garage for the maintenance and repair of garbage trucks. **Vote 4 Yes/ 0 No Motion approved.**

2. **Project Updates:**

A Abbey Road: In Reviewing the plan for the project, the Chair was reminded that the applicant had received a Special Permit for a Common Drive involving 2 of the homes in the development She spoke with Commissioner Sinibaldi making him aware of the apparent change, he stated that the drives may be altered as the road is completed and that he would have no issue either way. He is more concerned with the town obtaining a cost estimate of the completion of the infrastructure and which Lots would still be held if and when the board decided to release a number of Lots which Mr. Groden had requested at the last meeting. Mr. Groden has not as yet contacted the board with the figures requested at the December 5, 2017 meeting. The board informed Mr. Groden at that time, both the value of the lots held and the estimated cost to complete would be necessary for the board to have prior to entertaining any motion for any Lot release. The board also expressed concern that none of the erosion controls, suggested at the December 5th meeting were put in place due to the arrival of a large snow storm. It will be necessary to view the site after the predicted thaw and rain of the coming week to see how well things are holding on the slope. (See minutes of December 5, 2017 for details regarding erosion at the site)

B Poplar Hill Circle: It has been noted after spreading the loam at the rear of the homes to finish the yards, that many are rather steep, this is of no real concern to the board or our engineer, however it will make mowing challenging.

C Quail Ridge: The last home is completed and for sale.

D Regency Village: It is not known if they were able to begin or complete putting in winter foundations, Commissioner Sinibaldi was not present at the meeting to confirm. But no problems have been reported at the site.

NEW BUSINESS:

1 Tentatively Scheduled ANR not received.

2 Planning Budget: Motion: To submit the budget as presented to the Finance Committee for approval for the next fiscal year. **Vote: 4 Yes/ 0 No Motion approved.**

CORRESPONDENCE:

1. Warrants:

a Motion: To approve Horsley Witten invoice # 41893 in the amount of \$337.50 for construction observation and report #5 at Regency Village. **Vote 4 Yes/ 0 No Motion approved.**

b Motion: To approve Horsley Witten invoice # 41890 in the amount of \$ 202.50 for construction observation and report #28 at the Poplar Hill Circle Development, Middle Rd. **Vote 4 Yes 0 No Motion approved.**

c Motion: To approve Horsley Witten invoice #41892 in the amount of \$202.50 for a site inspection and report #20 at Abbey Rd., 22 Bear Hill Road. **Vote 4 Yes / 0 No Motion approved.**

d Motion: To approve Horsley Witten invoice # 41891 in the amount of \$67.50 for site inspection at Freedom Way, 106 East Main Street. **Vote 4 Yes / 0 No. Motion approved.**

e Motion: To approve two biweekly payroll warrants for Pat True for payroll period 12/16/17 – 2/29/17 in the amount of \$194.00 and period 12/30/17 – 1/12/2018 in the amount of \$194.00. **Vote 4 Yes / 0 No Motion approved.**

f. Motion: T approve a warrant in the amount of \$ \$154.73 for the purchase of office supplies including a printer cartridge at 69.74 and date stamp ink refills at \$ 84.99 to be paid from board expense. **Vote 4 Yes / 0 No Motion approved.**

2. Appeals Board: No petitions or decision filed.

3. Communications Notices & Announcements:

a Anne Jim: Correspondence regarding the betterment fund set up in memory of Rob Atwood. The members discussed ways to use the small amount of the fund including the possibility of a plaque to identify the historic site of the 2 Poplar Trees used for navigation along the Merrimack River, this would be appropriate in two ways, Rob was very interested in historical matters and the entrance to the dedicated open space at Poplar Hill needs to be designated. A sign marking the entrance to this space was discussed at the beginning of the development and the applicants seemed to be in agreement that such plaque would be appropriate. The board will approach the developer to complete the balance needed for such a notice after using the fund balance.

b Surround Towns, five notices for Haverhill were noted, no action was needed and one notices for zoning amendment from West Newbury also require no action from the board.

c The received a note of appreciation from Conservation Agent Jay Smith regarding the cooperation between the board and Conservation at the Abbey Road Site.

d The next meeting will be February 6th 2018. The January 16th meeting will be cancelled.
ADJOURNMENT: 8:45 PM.