

Minutes of the Antrim Planning Board Meeting August 1, 1991

Present: Judith Pratt, Chairman; Thelma Nichols; Edwin Rowehl, ex officio; Nancy Timko; Rod Zwirner.

The Chairman opened the meeting at 7:35 P.M. and introduced the Board.

Earth Excavations: Informational meeting to discuss RSA 155-E as it pertains to the mining of gravel and other related materials. Present to participate in this discussion were: Smith B. Harriman, Arthur Merrill, Sr., Stuart Gross, Stephen Jones, and Richard Watterson. The Chair referenced the new law and outlined the regulation. It was established that the law is regulated by the Planning Board and while permits have been required since 1979 the Town has never implemented a regulation for issuing such permits. The Chair outlined the purpose of the regulation. Among the points noted were reclamation with an emphasis on safety and drainage and the prevention of materials from encroaching on the road and property of others. The Chair pointed out that all pits are not grandfathered and cautioned that they must comply with the operation standards. She proposed a schedule where applications must be received by August 12, 1991 with a joint public hearing to be scheduled for September 12, 1991 at 7:30 P.M. Chairman Pratt stated that the fees for this process shall be made as low as possible by charging the actual cost of certified mail to abutter of \$2.29 per abutter and the Applicants' share of the cost of publication of the notice of hearing in the local newspaper. Setbacks, noise and traffic dust were noted as concerns addressed by the regulation. The pit operators were also informed of the need for a Site Specific Permit from the New Hampshire WSPCD if more than 100,000 square feet of material is to be disturbed. Pit owner, Stuart Gross commented that warning signs could help to eliminate dangerous situations. Smith Harriman spoke to the qualifications of those reviewing the pits and the possibility of the pits being shut down. The Chairman pointed out that there is a need for this material and that it would be counterproductive to shut them down. She also spoke to the qualifications and stated that either the Building Inspector or the Road Agent could be asked to contribute their expertise. The Planning Board also has the option of employing professional assistance. Harriman asked if he would need a separate application for each lot and was informed that he could apply on one application noting the different lot numbers. There was discussion of existing pits located too close to the road. It was agreed that the Owners will be notified when the site is to be reviewed by the Board so that they can be present. Harriman observed that he sells to the Town and this could hamper his operation. The Chair commented that this will bring the Town up to date and that the intention is not to hurt anybody. Stuart Gross stressed the importance of this material and commented on the need to protect the Town. The Chair asked for completed applications in order to implement this regulation. Reference was made to the soils map now being

prepared by SWRPC. As a result of a question from Arthur Merrill, it was established that material used for municipal, state or personal use is exempt from the permit process. There was discussion of a termination date with a five year term suggested. Attention was called to the Weston property on the southern border of Town as the possible site of a gravel pit. Informational public hearing closed.

Robert Watterson met with the Board to discuss the proposed subdivision of the Lily Pond Ledges property off Route 31, which is located half in the Rural Conservation District and half in the Rural District. He expressed the desire to complete the plan as soon as possible. He met with the Board to discuss the profile of the proposed road and the grade of same. It was established that the road will be approximately 2000 ft long and the Board agreed that 20 feet of pavement with 4 foot shoulders would be acceptable. The radius of some of the curves was discussed with the suggestion being made by Ed Rowehl that it be improved.

The minutes of July 25, 1991 were addressed. Nancy Timko had a problem with item #4. After some discussion, it was agreed that the wording be changed to: "during the two years previous to that time." Nancy Timko moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Second Rod Zwirner. So moved unanimously.

The meeting for August 8, 1991 is canceled.

Ed Rowehl moved to adjourn the meeting. Nancy Timko second. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Elia, Secretary