



Town of Becket  
Planning Board  
557 Main Street  
Becket, Massachusetts 01223  
Phone (413) 623-8934 Ext. 20

## Meeting Minutes for May 10, 2017

**Planning Board Members Present:** Robert Ronzio, Ann Krawet, Charles Andrews

**Planning Board Members Absent:** Gale LaBelle and James Levy

**Public Present:** Peter L. Puciloski, Michael Lavery and Al Blake

**Administrative Assistant:** Jessica Perotti- taking minutes

### Call to Order

Chairman, Robert Ronzio, opens the meeting at 7:15 PM and announces there are Meeting Agendas on the table for anyone that wants a copy. He introduces the Board Members and Administrative Assistant. He informs all that the meeting is being held in accordance with Massachusetts General Law (MGL) 40A and the By-laws of the Town of Becket. A decision to issue a special permit requires a minimum of four positive votes from a five member board. Mr. Ronzio informs all as a provision of the open meeting law, MGL 30A - Section 20 and asks if anyone in the audience is going to be making a video or audio recording of this session or to transmit this meeting through any media. Ms. Perotti informs Mr. Ronzio she is recording the meeting for the minutes.

### Board Members Comments and Announcements:

Ms. Krawet informs the Board that it seems highly unlikely that the Driveway By-law will be able to be voted on unless they present a new copy as the final copy did not appear with the same verbiage on the warrant.

### Board to Review March 8, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Minutes are not available and will be reviewed at the next meeting- June 14, 2017

### Medical Marijuana Ipswich Pharmaceuticals Associates, Inc.'s (Cultivation Only) Dispensary Discussion

Mr. Ronzio informs all of the meeting that was held March 23rd regarding Ipswich Pharmaceuticals. There was a letter, dated March 26, issued by William H. Elovirta regarding the way he voted at the Hearing. Mr. Ronzio reads the letter (attached) into the record. Mr. Ronzio then asks if anyone wants to comment on the letter. Al Blake agreed with the first part of the letter: that it was a very poor presentation. He did, however, disagree with the second part of the letter. Mr. Blake believes the main questions asked *were* answered properly. They were regarding security, as it may add to the crime in the area. He believes the security Ipswich would have provided would have actually reduced crime in the area, not add to it. This was a main point that the abutters were concerned with on the project. He is not sure what Mr. Elovirta was referring to regarding questions not being answered properly. Michael Lavery then explains he wrote a letter to the editor of The Berkshire Eagle, which was published 2 days after



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Mr. Elovirta put his letter on record but was sent 5 days before Mr. Elovirta's letter, regarding the vote. Mr. Lavery feels if Mr. Elovirta was so concerned, he should have raised questions at the meeting instead of after the fact. Also noting: Mr. Elovirta took a vote, by show of hands, at the end of the meeting which showed an overwhelming majority of the people present were in favor of the proposal. Mr. Lavery goes on to say that Mr. Elovirta always goes with the majority vote and on this one, he went against his own principles. Mr. Lavery was shocked by Mr. Elovirta's vote that night. Mr. Ronzio agrees that the presentation was done poorly. Mr. Ronzio continues on to say he believes the site Jodie McCarthy picked out is ideal. Mr. Ronzio is not sure if the issue will continue or if Mr. McCarthy will be looking for another site. Mr. Ronzio will be calling Mr. McCarthy to clarify his position.

### Public Participation

Michael Lavery made an addendum to Ms. Krawet's earlier comment on the Driveway By-law confusion. Mr. Lavery talks about the black and white copy of the warrant he received in the mail, concerning the width of a driveway, is not what was presented in the red letters presented by the Planning Board. Discussions continue, briefly, regarding driveway widths and property amounts on each side. Mr. Lavery went on to discuss his running for Selectman. He has come out in support of the medical marijuana industry and also, in general, of a grow farm in Becket. Mr. Lavery wanted to be clear that if elected, he would work closely with the Planning and Zoning Boards to establish an area that would be suitable for that kind of farm instead of having companies come forward with plan proposals and getting denied 3 or 4 times. Mr. Ronzio informs Mr. Lavery that the Town of Becket, right now, is not set up in zones. As of now, everything is done with special permits regarding zoning.

### Old Business

Ms. Krawet thought the Driveway By-law should be removed from the warrant because of the confusion in the wording of it and should discuss it when the full board was present. Discussions on the Driveway By-law continue. Ms. Krawet makes a motion to remove the Driveway By-law from the warrant. Mr. Andrews seconds the motion. Mr. Ronzio calls for a vote. All in favor. Motion passes.

### New Business

Mr. Ronzio goes on to the Special Permit Application for Borrego Solar Systems, Inc. regarding the 7 foot fence they are required, by the state, to put around their facility. Mr. Ronzio introduces Peter Puciloski, an attorney representing Borrego Solar Systems, Inc. Mr. Ronzio then explains to Mr. Puciloski that because they are short a board member, they will not be able to vote on the application. Mr. Puciloski asks if he could bring the board members present



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up to date with the project. Mr. Ronzio agrees to hear the update. Mr. Puciloski first asks if the permit they applied for is even needed because the fence is well within the property line. He then references section 4.3.2.2 regarding walls and hedges. Mr. Ronzio reads it into the record. Mr. Puciloski adds that the design of the fence has changed after conversations with the Conservation Commission. They took out the foot of barbed wire at the top and made all 7 feet chain link fencing with 6 inches left open underneath for small animals to pass. Mr. Puciloski adds that the proposed site plan has shrunk a little bit. Mr. Puciloski pointed out that there are no panels in the jurisdictional area, only tree clearing. Mr. Ronzio wraps up the discussion reminding Mr. Puciloski that the board is unable to vote on the proposal at this time and that when it comes before the Board again, there will be some new members. Mr. Ronzio thanks Mr. Puciloski for his time.

Special Permit Application for an 18'X16' deck addition for 1725 Main Street- continued because no schematic drawings were submitted for the proposed deck.

### Review Correspondence

The Board reviews notifications of public hearings from abutting towns on a variety of topics.

### Budget

To be discussed at next Planning Board Meeting- June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### Any Other Business to Come Before the Board

None

### Adjournment

Next meeting set for June 14, 2017. Ms. Krawet makes a motion to adjourn. Motion seconded by Mr. Andrews. Mr. Ronzio calls for a vote. All in favor. Motion passes. Meeting is adjourned at 9:29 PM.

Meeting Minutes reviewed and approved on September 13, 2017 by:

  
Robert Ronzio

  
Ann Krawet

  
Charles Andrews

Oct. 19, 2017