

DEERFIELD PLANNING BOARD
DEERFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE
FEBRUARY 27, 2019

MINUTES OF MEETING

PRESENT: Board members Peter Schibbelhute, Selectmen's Representative Fred McGarry, William Perron. Also present Cameron Prolman, SNHPC, and secretary Jane Boucher.

Chair Peter Schibbelhute called the meeting to order at 7PM.

APPROVAL OF MANIFEST

Fred McGarry moved to approve the manifest in the amount of \$1,548.02 and a time sheet for Jane Boucher. (SNHPC \$278.12, SNHPC \$1,269.90, Time Sheet 19 1/2 hours). William Perron seconded. Voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Fred McGarry moved to approve the minutes of February 13, 2019. William Perron seconded. Voted in favor.

APPROVAL OF CONTRACT/SNHPC

Fred McGarry moved to approve a contract with SNHPC to provide Planning Services for 2019 in the amount of \$15,000.00. William Perron seconded. Voted in favor.

Chair Schibbelhute advised that the Public Hearing scheduled for 7:45PM for renewal of an Earth Excavation Permit for Steve Rollins has been cancelled by the applicant and re-scheduled to March 27, 2019.

7:15PM APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC HEARING; PUBLIC SERVICE CO. OF NH
DBA EVERSOURCE; CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT; TRANSMISSION LINE
MAINTENANCE

Matt Cardin representing Eversource and Mr. Ford, an Environmental Consultant for Tighe & Bond were present along with Erick Berglund, Leo Roy and Anthony and Laurie DiMauro.

Chair Schibbelhute read the Notice of Public Hearing by which Public Service Co. of N.H. (PSNH) dba Eversource Energy, 13 Legends Drive, Hooksett, NH for property located in Deerfield, NH (identified as Tax Map and Lot numbers: 424-066, 424-028, 424-008,, 418-062, 418-057, 418-055, 418-054, 418-031,, 418-062, 418-050, 418-013, 418-043) consisting of 232.66 acres. The name of the proposed site is line 373,385 and 391. Transmission line maintenance from the Town Border from Raymond and Candia to the Northwood Town line. The intent is to conduct maintenance activities including the grounding of 111 structures that requires temporary impacts to wetlands.

Fred McGarry moved to accept the application. William Perron seconded. Voted in favor.

Matt Cardin, Environmental Coordinator for Eversource, addressed the Board noting they were there for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for temporary wetland impact associated with the installation of ground rings for 111 structures associated with the 373, 385 and 391 lines. The reason for the ground ring is to increase the rise potential of the structures. The first phase of the project was to do work via helicopter that called for stapling the ground wire. The second phase of the project is to install a cable ring underneath the surface around each pole of the structure. There are typically 2 poles or 3 poles per structure. The idea is to install copper ground rings underneath the surface around each pole of the structure. Mr. Cardin said they were here tonight for a temporary impact associated with accessing these structures. They will use a small excavator to access the right of ways to structures. In some cases they will go through disturbed wetland areas where there are already access routes. They have done some assessing through those access routes to determine there will be less impact to have low ground impact with an excavator. He said they show about 25,416 square feet of temporary impact caused by the excavator.

Mr. Cardin continued noting they will use timber mats to smooth out ruts to reduce impact. Upland areas that are disturbed will also be addressed.

Tighe & Bond will be doing weekly inspections and they will be working with NH Fish & Game to identify species.

Fred McGarry questioned what does a ground wing do and why is it necessary.

Mr. Cardin said that the transmission lines are susceptible to lightning strikes. The ground wing provides a path of least destruction due to lightning strikes.

Mr. Cardin noted that they have applied for a standard Dredge and Fill Permit with DES and expect it to be approved in April, when they hope to begin work.

Chair Peter Schibbelhute advised, for the record, that he is an abutter.

William Perron also advised, for the record, that he is an abutter.

Matt Cardin was not certain of the time frame depending on the availability of crews. The goal is to complete it by the end

of the year.

Erick Berglund questioned if correspondence has been received from the Conservation Commission.

At this time Cameron Prolman read his memo regarding the application. The letter addressed concerns submitted by the Conservation Commission. A copy is attached to these minutes.

Mr. Cardin said that a wetland application has been submitted to DES. Weekly inspections will be conducted by Tighe & Bond.

Leo Roy, an abutter, questioned how many contractors will be on site. Mr. Cardin replied right now there is one. Mr. Roy also questioned ledge on the site. Mr. Cardin said that if ledge is located, the contractor will notify Eversource and an engineer will go to the site.

Erick Berglund questioned who would be notified after weekly inspections. Mr. Cardin said that has been a condition of approval.

Fred McGarry said that this will be a condition of approval.

Mr. McGarry referred to Cam Prolman's memo noting that they request that DES provide an on-site monitor and inspect the site after work has been completed. Mr. McGarry said that there is no guarantee that DES will inspect the site. He suggested that, as the Planning Board has done in the past, have the Town Engineer's ,Keach Nordstrom , conduct regular inspections.

Anthony DiMauro, an abutter, said that there was a small beaver pond near his land on the south side of his property. He voiced concern regarding flooding the area. Peter Schibbelhute advised that he speak with workers on site or NH Fish & Game regarding beavers on property.

Fred McGarry noted the following conditions be included with the approval of a CUP.

- . Restoration Bond \$10,000.00
- . Escrow for KNA Inspections \$2,000.00
- . Tighe & Bond to provide weekly inspection reports to DCC and Planning Board.
- . Initial Construction Meeting to include Keach Nordstrom
- . Conditional Use Permit for 1 year (4/19 to 4/20)
- . Tighe & Bond to include in weekly reports if any imperiled wildlife species have been encountered

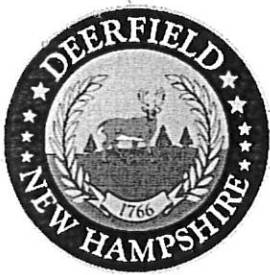
Fred McGarry moved to issue a Conditional Use Permit to PSNH dba Eversource with the conditions stated. William Perron

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seconded. Voted in favor.

8:10 PM Fred McGarry moved to adjourn the meeting. William Perron seconded. Voted in favor.

Recorded and transcribed by Jane Boucher
Pending Approval by the Planning Board



TOWN OF DEERFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE

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Memorandum

To: Deerfield Planning Board
From: Cam Prolman, SNHPC Representing Deerfield Town Planner
Re: Planning Board Meeting for February 27, 2019
Date: February 27, 2019

1. Eversource Conditional Use Permit Application for Utility Maintenance. Transmission Line 373, 385, and 391 Grounding Project from Town Border from Raymond and Candia to Northwood Town line.

Planners Comments: I have reviewed the plan and application set and note the following:

- Applicant proposes to install grounding rings at 111 structures, identified in Attachment B of the CUP.
- Applicant proposes that impacts to wetlands will be temporary in nature and are unavoidable to gain access to existing structures.
- Applicant broadly identifies construction sequence and identifies areas where wetland mapping, stream span, or tracked excavator access will be utilized. However, some BMPs are not identified where 1) grounding work is adjacent to wetlands and 2) wetland crossings occur on existing access areas. BMPs should be identified for each wetland crossing and any grounding work on existing structures where structures are adjacent to wetlands or within 50 ft of work.
- Based on correspondence with Deerfield Conservation Commission representatives, it is requested that the following be considered by the Planning Board:
 - The CUP indicates that Tighe & Bond (T&B) will conduct weekly inspections of the project area on behalf of Eversource to monitor compliance and provide recommendations for corrective actions, as necessary. T&B should also be surveying for rare, threatened, and endangered wildlife during these weekly site visits. Given that the majority of the project area is rated as Highest Ranked Wildlife Habitat in either New Hampshire or the ecological region and the Natural Heritage Bureau report indicated multiple species of conservation concern (black racers, spotted turtles, Blanding's turtles) in or near the project area, *the Planning Board should request that the extent of wildlife surveying should be included in the CUP.*
 - In a previous CUP from Eversource in 2018, the Conservation Commission requested weekly reports to the DCC and Planning Board, as well as a summary report at the end of the project. *The Planning Board should request these reports for the work proposed in the current CUP.*
 - *The Planning Board should support the Lamprey River Advisory Committee's (LRAC) request that NH Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) provide an on-site monitor who can check for rare species prior to deployment of matting and ensure proper restoration following project activities, or at a minimum that NHDES have someone inspect the site after the work has been completed.* (LRAC letter attached)