



Town of Sheffield

Planning Board

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Regular Meeting

Wednesday, November 12, 2014, 7:00 PM

TOWN HALL – 1st FLOOR MEETING ROOM

Planning Board Members Present: James T. Collingwood Jr., Chair
David A. Smith, Sr.,
Anthony Gulotta
Daniel Watson
Marie Massini-Reynolds

Members of the Public Present: No one

Mail:

- The ZBA sent notice of their decision to grant a Special Permit to Bear Materials located in the Village Center on Salisbury Rd.

Minutes: *D. Smith Sr. made a Motion to approve the October 22, 2014 minutes as amended. A. Gulotta seconded his Motion and the Motion was approved unanimously.*

Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BRPC) Meetings and Grants: Tomorrow, November 13th at 7pm BRPC will hold a seminar on Vested Rights, Conforming Structures and Uses. D. Smith Sr., J. Collingwood Jr. and M. Massini-Reynolds will attend.

The deadline is approaching for BRPC District request for funding for local technical assistance in 2015.

Smart Meters Petition: J. T. Collingwood Jr. explained that this petition must be acted on in 65 days with a public hearing. The Planning Board agreed to schedule a meeting December 17th at 6pm that will include a public hearing on the Smart Meters Petition.

Bylaw Definition of Restaurant: The Board discussed this issue, including its relation to the state law regarding alcohol.

Solar By-Laws: J. T. Collingwood Jr. explained that discussion regarding a solar bylaw does not stop current solar projects; such projects would be affected after a public hearing. M. Massini-Reynolds gave each board member a copy of the recommendations regarding solar bylaws from the BRPC and a copy of the Cheshire bylaws. She explained that state laws prohibit unreasonable regulation, but Cheshire bylaws, which primarily cover large scale installations,

were considered reasonable by the Massachusetts Attorney General. J. T. Collingwood Jr. thought language should be added to protect farm land. It was noted that two new installations are going up on either side of Watson's on Route 7. The Board discussed whether safety sign requirements would contradict current Sheffield sign bylaws. Planning Board Members were asked to review the Cheshire bylaws, mark suggested changes appropriate for Sheffield and resume discussion on December 10.

Signs: The Board held a discussion, regarding the sign bylaw. They noted that the word "Illumination" is used frequently. Board Members were generally not opposed to electronically controlled signs, rather, they were concerned with how bright signs would be. Members came to a consensus regarding illuminated signs and agreed to add the language "these signs are allowed by Special Permit in all districts."

Next Planning Board Meeting will be Wednesday, December 10th.

A. Gulotta made a Motion to adjourn, seconded by D. Smith Sr. The Motion was approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Nadia Milleron
Secretary to the Planning Board