

TOWN OF RIDGEWAY
410 West Ave
Medina, NY 14103
PLANNING BOARD MINUTES
December 4, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Tom Fenton (Chairman)
Thomas Kline
Tim Elliott
Richard Fisher
Kathy Blackburn (vm)
Dan Fuller

Others Present

Brian Napoli
Olivia Meikle
Gary Morris
Michael Kuhmann
Kurt Carpenter
Karen Kaiser
Anna Callard
Shawn Callard
David Stalker
Heidi Marciniak
Andrew Marciniak
Josh Sanders
Patricia Laszewski

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Fenton opened the meeting with Pledge of Allegiance at 7:00 pm. He then asked Kathy Blackburn, alternate board member, to sit in as a voting member in place of Richard Swan.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Chairman Fenton called for a motion to approve the December 4, 2019 Agenda. Motion was made by Richard Fisher to accept the meeting agenda; second by Tim Elliott. All in favor, the motion was carried

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

Chairman Fenton called for the approval of minutes for the November 6, 2019 meeting. Motion was made by Richard Fisher to accept the minutes as written, Kathy Blackburn seconded the motion. All in favor, the Motion was carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

-Chairman Fenton passed a sympathy card for the board members to sign, for the family of Richard Swan as he recently passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

Nothing to report

NEW BUSINESS:

Chairman Fenton opened the Public Hearing for Carpenter pond at 11411 East Scott Rd, Medina at 7:05pm. Chairman Fenton asked if there was anyone here for the public hearing. Home owner Kurt Carpenter was the only one present for the public hearing. Tim Elliott completed the site plan review and presented the plan to the board. He asked if there were any other questions or concerns. Chairman Fenton asked for a motion to close the public hearing at 7:08p, Tim Elliott made the motion and Kathy Blackburn seconded it. All were in favor and the motion carried. The board stated that they had no concerns/issues with the pond and Chairman Fenton asked for a motion to approve the Carpenter Pond as per the Town of Ridgeway Zoning Regulations. Kathy Blackburn made the motion to approve with a second by Tom Kline. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Olivia Meikle and Gary Morris from NextEra Energy Resources presented the Planning Board Members an application for a Solar Project at 2800 Swett Road, Lyndonville, NY. There were several Swett Road property owners at the meeting. Board Member Tim Elliott addressed the audience letting them know that NextEra was just here to present the application to the Planning Board Members. He stated that this was not a public hearing and that no questions from the audience would be taken or addressed at this time. He said that there would be a public hearing in the future for them to address their concerns and suggested they address them in writing to the Planning Board prior to the public hearing. At this time NextEra began their presentation to the board. NextEra plans to construct a 3.2MW Community Solar Project at 2800 Swett Road in Lyndonville. They plan to utilize 16.75 acres of the parcel of land. A copy of the power point presentation is attached to the meeting minutes describing the project. The board members were also presented with a binder containing the full project and applications. NextEra is asking for a variance for 250' from dwellings instead of the required 500' and a second variance for 105' from the road instead of the required 200'. Tim Elliott questioned the tree line and the type of trees being used as well as the spacing as other projects used different trees and planted closer together to make the project virtually invisible to the public. Dan Fuller asked if this was the biggest project and how many solar panels. It is not and there will be 10,000 panels. Kathy Blackburn asked how long it will take to construct. Olivia stated 4-5 months. Chairman Fenton asked the board for a motion to send the project to the Zoning Board of Appeals for approval of the Variances. Kathy Blackburn made the motion and Tom Kline seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion was carried.

Tim Elliott addressed the public audience explaining the process and the next steps to be taken. The project will go to the Zoning Board of Appeals which meets January 7, 2020. From there, the Planning Board will take their recommendation and refer it to the County Planning Board for approval. A Public Hearing will be scheduled in the future. He thanked the members of the community for coming.

Chairman Fenton asked if there were any further questions or concerns not related to the solar project. Since there were none, he and Richard Fisher asked to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel. He asked that everyone but the board members leave at this time, including alternate members. Members went into executive session at 7:30pm. The Planning Board resumed its meeting at 7:45pm. At which time Chairman Fenton asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tom Kline made a motion and was seconded by Tim Elliott. All in favor and the motion was carried. The meeting was adjourned at 7:47pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 8, 2020 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by
Joelle Brown
Planning Board Clerk

Please note these are unapproved meeting minutes and will not be approved until the next Planning Board Meeting.