

ONOTA TOWNSHIP PLANNING COMMISSION

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

July, 14, 2020

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Planning Commission was called to order at 7:06 p.m.

Present: Brian Mahoney, Fred Ivers, Brian Bresette, Bill Dunham, Vicki Ray, Erin Leahy Putvin, Michael Tarr

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made to adopt the agenda as amended to include necessary amendment to 5-12-2020 minutes.

- Motion: Vicki Ray
- Support: Erin Leahy Putvin
- Motion carried: 7-0

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made to approve the minutes 6-9-20 meeting as presented.

- Motion: Brian Bresette
- Support: Michael Tarr
- Motion carried: 7-0

REPORTS

Zoning Administrator: John Shauver

- John Shauver has stepped in as interim Zoning Administrator until a permanent applicant selection occurs.
- Board of Appeals met last night (7/13/20)
- Sent a letter to a gentleman who submitted an unclear application.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Greenleaf Timberholding Inc Conditional Use Permit for Gravel Pit. Matt Beaupied attended on behalf of Greenleaf Timberholding.
- Greenleaf is a large scale logging company looking to develop two gravel pits on Section Four in Onota Township intended for its own company use. If this project is viable, Greenleaf would like the option to run as a commercial gravel pit in the future. The intention is to go up to twenty feet into the earth. More testing is necessary to see if this location qualifies for MDOT specification and if there is worthy commercial value. The surface material at this location is hard sandstone with bedrock just below. The company plans to follow all requirements set forth by the state. Much more testing will be necessary to be sure how this space will be utilized.
- Brian Bresette questioned how much water may need to be pumped into drains. Questioned what amount of water, whether the water would be contained to the owner's property, and if

the drains were close to the property lines of other owners. It was stated that it is absolutely necessary that all water pumped from mined location, all seepage, and all sediment must be contained within the Greenleaf property with no seepage to other properties.

- Brian also questioned whether there would be any intention to recycle asphalt or dump asphalt at this site.
- Matt Beaupied responded that there would not be asphalt dumping or recycling on the property. Only aggregate will be removed from this site, no topsoil.
- It was mentioned that the Laughing Whitefish River is a “Designated Trout Stream.”

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Will Weatherby questioned the hours of operation of the proposed gravel pit.
- Matt Beaupied replied that the intention is to run the gravel pit Monday through Sunday during daytime hours only.
- Jude Hall expressed concerns about blasting and the effect on the neighboring properties as well as to wildlife and wildlife behaviors.
- Matt Beaupied responded that the company is anticipating just one blast at the current time (10,000 ton blast).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS CONTINUED

- A motion was made to approve the conditional use application submitted by Greenleaf Timberholding, barring further permits from all state agencies. The following conditions must be followed:
 - No railroad ties may be stored on the site/property.
 - No building materials may be stored on the site/property.
 - No recycled asphalt.
 - Property must be sloped off
 - All water must be contained to Greenleaf properties.
 - Operating hours may not exceed 7 am- 7pm
 - Must abide by all state requirements.
- Motion: Michael Tarr
- Support: Bill Dunham
- Motion carried: 7-0

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 pm.

- Motion: Michael Tarr
- Support: Brian Bresette
- Motion carried: 7-0

Respectfully Submitted,
Erin Leahy Putvin, Planning Commission Secretary