

TOWN OF AMHERST
Planning Board

July 7, 2020

APPROVED

In attendance: Arnie Rosenblatt - Chair, Michael Dell Orfano, Dwight Brew-Selectman Ex-Officio, Marilyn Peterman, Bill Stoughton, Chris Yates (Alternate), and Christy Houpis (Alternate).
Staff present: Nic Strong, Community Development Director, and Kristan Patenaude, Minute Taker.

Roll call attendance: Chris Yates; Bill Stoughton; Dwight Brew; Mike Dell Orfano; Marilyn Peterman; Christy Houpis; Arnie Rosenblatt; all alone and present.

Christy Houpis sat for Brian Coogan.

Chris Yates sat for Cynthia Dokmo.

Arnie Rosenblatt called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m., with the following statement. As Chair of the Amherst Planning Board, I find that due to the State of Emergency declared by the Governor as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and in accordance with the Governor's Emergency Order #12 pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, as extended by Executive Orders 2020-05, 2020-08, 2020-09, 2020-10 and 2020-14, this public body is authorized to meet electronically.

Please note that there is no physical location to observe and listen contemporaneously to this meeting, which was authorized pursuant to the Governor's Emergency Order.

However, in accordance with the Emergency Order, I am confirming that we are:

Providing public access to the meeting by telephone, with additional access possibilities by video or other electronic means:

We are utilizing Zoom for this electronic meeting.

All members of the Board have the ability to communicate contemporaneously during this meeting through this platform, and the public has access to contemporaneously listen and, if necessary, participate in this meeting through dialing the following phone #312-626-6799 and password 848 8885 3263, or by clicking on the following website address: <https://zoom.us/j/84888853263> that was included in the public notice of this meeting.

Providing public notice of the necessary information for accessing the meeting:

We previously gave notice to the public of the necessary information for accessing the meeting, including how to access the meeting using Zoom or telephonically. Instructions have also been provided on the website of the Planning Board at: www.amherstnh.gov.

Providing a mechanism for the public to alert the public body during the meeting if there are problems with access: If anybody has a problem, please call 603-341-5290.

Adjourning the meeting if the public is unable to access the meeting:

In the event the public is unable to access the meeting, the meeting will be adjourned and rescheduled.

Please note that all votes that are taken during this meeting shall be done by roll call vote.

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Tracie Adams entered the meeting.

Arnie Rosenblatt explained that there will be no public discussion at this time. It appears that there was a malfunction with the town website earlier in the day regarding access to the Planning Board agenda with the Zoom/telephonic information on it. Due to this malfunction, it can be said that there was inadequate notice to the public and thus the Planning Board meeting cannot process accordingly. He apologized to the Board and community and suggested that the Board continue the hearing to a future date.

Carter Scott, applicant, Ken Clinton, of Meridian Land Services, and the applicant's attorney, John Ratigan, entered the meeting as participants.

Carter Scott, Ken Clinton, and John Ratigan all agreed that the hearing should be continued at this time.

In response to a question from Arnie Rosenblatt, each Board member answered with their availability for a future continued meeting date, either July 14, or July 21, 2020.

Chris Yates, Dwight Brew, and Bill Stoughton stated that they would be available on either date.

Mike Dell Orfano, Christy Houpis, and Marilyn Peterman stated that they would be available on either date, but would prefer the 21st, so as to not have back-to-back Planning Board meetings.

Tracie Adams stated that she was available on either date, but will be recusing herself from this case.

In response to a question from Ken Clinton, Arnie Rosenblatt explained that he doesn't believe the Planning Board needs to delay any hearings based on the lack of ability to have in-person meetings. His view is that the Planning Board can continue to use Zoom for meetings indefinitely and that this will not stop any applications from moving forward. While the platform is not perfect, it will allow the Board to continue to move forward with its business.

John Ratigan stated that he has a conflict on July 21st.

In response to a suggestion from Nic Strong, each Board member agreed to hold the continued hearing on July 23rd and the applicant and his professionals confirmed their availability on that date.

Mike Dell Orfano moved to table the Jacobson hearing until July 23, 2020, at 7:00pm, via Zoom. Christy Houpis seconded.

Roll call: Chris Yates – aye; Marilyn Peterman – aye; Christy Houpis – aye; Mike Dell Orfano – aye; Dwight Brew – aye; Bill Stoughton – aye. Motion carried unanimously.

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89 Arnie Rosenblatt explained that the single issue to be discussed at the continued hearing is for
90 the Board to determine that the current application is materially different than the first
91 application. This discussion cannot be had tonight due to the pertinent information not being
92 available on the town's website for those looking to attend the meeting.

93
94 **Mike Dell Orfano moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:21pm. Marilyn Peterman**
95 **seconded.**

96 **Roll call: Chris Yates – aye; Marilyn Peterman – aye; Christy Houpis – aye; Mike**
97 **Dell Orfano – aye; Dwight Brew – aye; Bill Stoughton – aye. Motion carried**
98 **unanimously.**
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101
102 Respectfully submitted,
103 Kristan Patenaude
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105 Minutes approved: July 15, 2020