

Planning Board Meeting Minutes

Town of Oakland

Date: 9/25/2024

7 PM

- Call to order - roll call at 7:01 P.M.

Present- Shawn Stevens, Rick Mackenzie, Jamie Phair, John Cox, Dave Roy.

- Old Business- Approval of September 17th meeting minutes.
- New Business-

Continue to review the plans for a 198 Foot communications tower located on Map38 Lot9. Landry supplied the board with information that was requested. This meeting was continued because the Planning Board did not have a quorum on the 17th of September. Shawn and Jamie asked for an overview of the information that was presented last meeting. Landry explained the information that was presented. Rick asked about the noise level of the equipment that will be on site. Shawn explained that he purchased a DV recorder and visited three tower sites. All readings were averaging 40 and our site plan requires 50DV. Landry stated that he was recording all three locations at 200-400-600 feet away from the site and all readings didn't change. He also stated that the board revisit the ordinance for changing the DV level. He stated that he was recording the meeting, and the level was between 60-70 DV. Rick asked about the color of the tower and explained that tower companies make the "tree looking" towers and asked if he gained information on those types of towers. Landry explained that he did investigate and found a significant increase in cost as well as the need for redesigning his plan. He went on to explain that the footprint and size of the footprint would have to change. Landry explained that his investigation also found that the "Mono pine" towers are made of PVC and prone to failure in climates like Maine. He explained that the load from ice and added wind caused failure and collapse. Landry explained that the tower will be gray and blend in with the natural surroundings. He stated that the majority of the trees in that area are hardwood, and gray is the dominant color of those trees. Jamie explained to the board that they had asked for information and Landry obtained that information. Shawn stated that he thought that Landry fulfilled his obligation and that it should be approved based on the information that has been provided. An abutter, Jeff Hill attended the meeting with his wife Karen Hill. Both reside in Belgrade. He made a statement to the board about his situation and that he wasn't pleased with the tower being so close to his residence. He explained that more research should be done on the health effects of communication towers. Nathan Smart (Code Officer) explained to the board that they have a responsibility to make decisions on the current adopted Site Plan Review Ordinance that was adopted and amended in 2008. Nathan also made a statement that the planning board should investigate and review the site plan as suggested by Mr. Hill and use his collected data as a reference for future amendments. Jaime Phair made a motion

to approve the Site plan as presented, John Cox seconded and 4-1 in favor.

Continue to review the Site plan for the newly constructed dining hall at Camp Tracy by H.T. Winters. Mark Winters explained to the board his intent. Mark presented the information again to the board members that were not at the September 17th meeting. The board could not vote due to not having a quorum. Motion was made to approve the plan as presented by Shawn. Jamie Phair seconded, and all were in favor. Rick abstained his vote due to conflict of interest.

Adjourn - Motion made by – Jamie Phair at 8:02 P.M.
Seconded by – John Cox