



Zoning Board of Appeals

Minutes of Tuesday, October 11, 2016 – 7:00 PM

Board of Appeals members present: Charles Dudek, Gerry Mann, Osa Flory & Marcianna Caplis

Absent: None

Applicants Present: Eleanor & Michael Hebert

Public Present: Chris Flory, Gail & Nels Christenson, Sherry Clark, David & Diane Punska, and Elizabeth Schuster

Decision Meeting-106 South Street-M. Hebert

(CD) called the decision meeting to order at 7 pm for the application for a Special Permit by Michael Hebert & Blue Planet Energy to operate a firewood processing facility and a portable sawmill at 106 South St. The Research and Development of Pellet fuel will be done off property.

(CD) noted the Zoning Bylaws of Williamsburg allows the Zoning Board of Appeals to issue a Special Permit if the Board finds that the use and structure are compatible with the character and scale of other uses permitted as of right in the same zone which is the Rural Zone. There are five or six other criteria which the Board must consider: whether the use constitutes a nuisance by reason of excessive air or water pollution or noise, significant adverse impact on surface water, design of project addresses sewerage and other waste, and if the project can minimize the degrading elements to protect the neighboring properties.

(CD) noted that the Board did a site visit and took under advisement all the testimony at the Public Hearings.

(CD) stated the level of noise generated by the business would be excessive and not in character of the neighborhood. He is not in favor of granting the permit.

(MC) stated that light industry does not fit into the character of the neighborhood. She is not in favor of approving the Special Permit.

(OF) spoke about the noise at the Site visit. She noted it is not much louder than a lawn mower but who would want to hear a lawn mower for eight to ten hours a day. She stated it is not in character of the neighborhood. She is not in favor of approving the Special Permit.

(CD) stated the proposed activity is not compatible with other uses that are allowed in the zone by right.

(CD) made a motion to deny the Special Permit for Michael Hebert and Blue Planet Energy at 106 South St. Motion was seconded by (MC).

(CD)-No

(MC)-No

(OF)-No

Michael Hebert asked if he could process firewood or cut boards from wood that is cut on his property. The Board stated that would be allowed.

Motion made (MC) and seconded (OF) to adjourn. Motion so voted unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Lessard, Secretary