

Town of Denning - Planning Board Meeting

March 13, 2008



Planning Board Regular Meeting

The meeting of the Town of Denning Planning Board was called to order by Chairman Alden Thayer at 7:45 PM. Members present were Mr. Thayer, Mr. Brooks, Mr. Landon, Mr. Larison, and Mr. Bobik.

Mr. Thayer read the minutes from the last meeting of February 14th. Minor changes were: Completing a comment from Mr. Larison "...anyone with plan exempt"; SEQRA vs. SEQR; and "... 350 required for permit". Motion to accept the minutes as read with minor corrections was made by Mr. Bobik, seconded by Mr. Brooks, all in favor.

Old Business:

Review of Mr. Thayer's revisions to the Timber Harvest Law. After lengthy discussion we recommended a few changes for the **final** version:

- Section 1 #3 should read "200 cords of wood."
- Section 3 subsection D #1 add the words "to be logged".
- Section 3 subsection D #2 should read "not certified, notified by writing by the applicant within 30 day."
- Section 5 - references to acreage removed.
- Section 6 subsection A #8 – reference added to Section 7.

Mr. Larison commented in brief, that we previously decided that the need for "Surety Bonds" was replaced by accepted "Forestry Consultants"...

Mr. Thayer said that we should eliminate surety bonds all together as it doesn't apply to logging done on roads other than town roads.

Mr. Larison continued the discussion on revisions:

- Section 6 #5 – should have proof of workman's comp and proof of liability insurance of 2,000,000

We all discussed more revisions:

- Section 6 #6 should include the words "for logging permit"
- Section 6 #7 leave out the changes made to this section.

Mr. Larison expressed concern about making a permanent position engaged in the inspection of forestry projects, noting the need to consider the implications. We all agreed.

Mr Landon requested that we leave

- Section 8/9 in the Timber Harvest Law as is with the exception of the last sentence that should read "as part of fee structure" and not "application expense".

Mr. Thayer will check for future reference, how much, on average, forestry consultants charge. Mr. Brooks suggested that Mr. Larison check with other foresters to see what they would charge to inspect jobs. We agreed.

We continued on the proposed revisions:

- Section 8 subsection B with reference to qualified forester should read – “to the guidelines enumerated in Section 7 for a fee of \$125 for inspection or as revised by the town board fee restructuring.
- Section 15 – “forestry consultant” should read “qualified forester engaged by the planning board” with reference to Section 8.
- Section 6 subsection A – Mr. Bobik asked if this only applies to the same site ? What about property owners with multiple sites. Mr. Thayer suggested we leave it alone.

Enough on the revisions to the Timber Harvest Law...

Mr Thayer said he would finalize the recommendations and send us a copy. He will send it to the Town Board for their review, hearing, and adoption.

New Business: (little to none at this time).

Mr. Landon gave a brief update on the progress of the Zoning Committee, He also spoke to David Gilmour and he wanted us to consider the effects on Zoning Law with reference to enforcement of the Timber Harvest Law. Will this set a precedent on enforcement? Could this be used as a guide for the revised zoning? We didn't have any answers at this time and think that presidents are set when action is taken. More discussion is needed on this in a future meeting as the committee to revise the zoning law will be working on this issue.

Mr. Larison made a motion to get a monthly review on the progress of the Committee to Revise Denning's Land Use Codes (Zoning Committee). Mr. Thayer seconded, all in favor.

Mr Thayer said he would give an update as he is on the committee.

Mr. Larison motions to adjourn at 9:42 PM and Mr. Brooks seconded, all in favor.

The next meeting will be held on April 10, 2008 we plan (once again) on discussing “wind generator” and “broadband networking”

Respectfully submitted,
Carl Landon