

TOWN OF ARIETTA PLANNING BOARD
Piseco, NY 12139

Meeting Dated: Tuesday April 12, 2022 – 6:00 P.M.
Piseco School

Meeting Minutes

Members present:

Sheila Crouse
Mary Kiewicz
Ken Kull
Bob Thomson

Members absent:

Bryan Rudes

Alternate/Secretary Marie Buanno Others present: Zoning Officer Mel LaScola, John Boyer, Chris Rhodes, Craig Small, Barry Baker

Marie Buanno noted Zoning Officer Mel LaScola was omitted as being in attendance at the January meeting. There were not enough members present who attended that meeting to make a motion to accept at the last meeting. Mary Kiewicz made a motion to accept those minutes as corrected. 2nd by Sheila Crouse. Bryan Rudes & Bob Thomson were not in attendance at that meeting and Ken Kull was not yet a member of the Planning Board. The vote in favor of acceptance was 3 – 0 (Sheila Crouse, Mary Kiewicz and Marie Buanno who served as Alternate at that meeting).

Mary Kiewicz noted that the acreage of the Spinks property was incorrectly reported as being .5 acres in the March minutes. It should have been 2.3 acres. Bob Thomson made a motion to accept those minutes as corrected. 2nd by Ken Kull. The vote in favor of acceptance was 3 -0 (Mary Kiewicz, Ken Kull, & Bob Thomson). Sheila Crouse was not in attendance at that meeting and Bryan Rudes is not at this meeting.

Mary said the first thing she wanted to discuss was APA information (5 pages attached to these minutes) she sent all Planning Board members concerning the reconstruction of existing electric lines and poles by NYSEG on Route 28 in Raquette Lake which is in part a part of Arietta. The APA requires the Town of Arietta as well as Indian Lake and Long Lake to comment regarding compliance of the project with the towns land use programs. The height of the poles and the setbacks are not in compliance. Supervisor Chris Rhodes commented that this is long overdue. No one had an issue with the project and Mary will compose a note to Devon Korn at the APA stating so. She will send it to Planning Board members before sending it on to him.

Supervisor Chris Rhodes approached the Planning Board about the property known as the “stump dump” with the entrance on Old Piseco Road between John & Penny Boyer and Jon & Lynn Lane. Initially the Planning Board was notified that it may become the site of the new town barn. Chris said tonight that this idea has changed as there has been feedback from some neighbors who are concerned with the amount of traffic it would create. He and Hwy. Superintendent Craig Small are now looking to do something at the current location. The “stump dump” is zone 34 for extraction only. It cannot be used for anything else. If the Town ever wanted to do anything else there, the SD1 designation would need to be added. This way, the 35 acres could be used for equipment storage or even a warming hut for the Foxy Brown trail. The town residents could weigh in on suggested uses as there are many possibilities under SD1. It could still be used as a brush dump as that is just a small area. It is his understanding that this would have to be approved by the Planning Board. Mary said anyone can ask for a zoning change and have it approved by the Planning Board. Majority vote by the Town Board can override that. Although Mary doesn’t think the APA has the final say in a zone change or would have a problem with this change, it would be submitted to them for their input. Mary noted Lake Pleasant just went through this and gave Chris an idea of how their Town Board wrote a resolution. A public hearing would need to be held as well. No one had any additional concerns. Mary asked for a motion that the Planning Board would like to begin the process of amending the use codes book to include an addition of use designation in Zone 34 which would make that zone both extraction and SD1. Sheila so moved, 2nd by Bob Thomson. All were in favor (4 – 0). Mary will notify the Town Board of this vote.

Chris Rhodes told everyone that he and Craig Small have been checking out other ideas concerning the town barn project now that they are not considering the “stump dump” location. The original estimation was 4 million dollars. They are now considering a \$500,000.00 garage with an office and break room similar to Indian Lake and Long Lake which is built on a slab. It is weather tight with radiant heat flooring. It will have a 17 ft. ceiling to accommodate large equipment and

will be 60 feet x 136 feet. The current garage is 50 feet x 80 feet. This is not in this year's budget so it will not happen until next year if the Town Board chooses to budget for it. A lot of the inside work would be done by the town workers which would be a huge savings to the town. The sand and salt shed is going before the Zoning Board in May for a variance to build on Route 10. Mary asked if they ever considered building the town barn on Route 10. Chris said there is no electric at that location. They have contacted National Grid but are of the feeling it is going to be very expensive to get electric service there.

Chris Rhodes asked the Planning Board what their views were concerning solar farms. Someone inquired wanting 10 acres for this purpose in Hamilton County. It was talked about when the new codes book was redone. It was not put in as the representative from the LeBarge Group who helped revamp the book said the APA was working on it. Some board members knew of a Piseco resident that tried to use solar panels for power but were not successful and had to put in electric as the generator ran a lot due to lack of sun. Most did not think they would work. Some thought they were rather ugly. This is something the group should start thinking about working on in case it comes up in the future.

Barry Baker asked where the Planning Board stood with the density changes to the codes book. Mary said a recommended density chart (per lot) had been sent to the Town Board at least two years ago and was not acted on. Mary had also discussed it with Robin Burgess at the APA.

Sheila inquired about the collapsed house on Higgins Bay Road and if there was a time limit on when they must clean it up. Mel LaScola said he sent a letter to Janet Annan and it came back as undeliverable. Mel has to resend it somehow or get it to her when she returns to Piseco.

A motion to adjourn was made by Sheila Crouse. Seconded by Bob Thomson. All were in favor 4 – 0. Our next meeting will be May 10, 2022.

There is one 5 page attachment to these minutes – The APA information on the Raquette Lake electric service.

Respectfully submitted, Marie C. Buanno