

PLANNING BOARD - TOWN OF MACHIAS

JULY 5, 2017

This meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Chairman William Thompson. In attendance were Board members Joe Gurney and Ed Pellon; Secretary Cathy Lord; Town Manager Christina Therrien; Code Enforcement Officer Betsy Fitzgerald; John Simard, Stephen Cook, Bob Berta.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

On a motion by Joe Gurney, seconded by Ed Pellon, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2017 Board meeting.

2. BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATIONS - REVIEW AND ACTION

A. The Board reviewed a building permit application submitted by Andrew and Wynona Francis for the construction of a 16 X 16 foot storage building to be built on a lot located at 36 Balsam Drive.

On a motion by Ed Pellon, seconded by Joe Gurney, the Board  
VOTED:

To approve a building permit application submitted by Andrew and Wynona Francis for the construction of a storage building on a lot located at 36 Balsam Drive.

B. The Board reviewed a building permit application submitted by John Simand for the construction of a deck to a home located at 231 Dublin Street. Mr. Simand asked the Board to grant a waiver on the front setback which will measure twenty-eight feet.

On a motion by Joe Gurney, seconded by Ed Pellon, the Board  
VOTED:

To approve a building permit application submitted by John Simand for the construction of a deck to a home located at 231 Dublin Street to include a waiver as requested for a front setback of twenty-eight feet.

C. The Board reviewed a building permit application submitted by Stephen Cook for the construction of greenhouses on a lot located on Rt. #192 for a sea salt production business.

On a motion by Joe Gurney, seconded by Ed Pellon, the Board  
VOTED:

To approve a building permit application submitted by Stephen Cook for the construction of greenhouses for sea salt production on Rt. #192.

### 3. OTHER BUSINESS

The Board provided input to a resident regarding the possible location of a mobile home to a lot located on Scott Lane in the event that an adjoining lot is purchased. The members of the Board directed that the owner work with the plumbing inspector on the placement of the mobile home in regards to the location of a re-existing septic system and checking with the Code Enforcement Officer on setback requirements.

### 4. REVIEW OF PROPOSED MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES

A. The members of the Planning Board reviewed the proposed driveway ordinance and made the following revisions: (1) add to the ordinance that the location of driveways in existence prior to the date of the adoption of the ordinance will be grandfathered, (2) remove language pertaining to State highways, (3) add stipulation that driveway permits must be submitted to the Machias Town Office prior to the 15th of the month, (4) remove language that the driveway fee will be established by the Planning Board since this is the responsibility of the Board of Selectmen, and (5) add note that there will not be an additional fee for a driveway permit if the driveway application is submitted in conjunction with a building permit application for new construction.

B. The Board reviewed the contents of the proposed grass, weeds, and vegetation ordinance. It was noted that this proposed ordinance received no support from citizens who attended a public hearing on the proposed ordinances or at the June planning board meeting. Mr. Thompson pointed out that citizens felt that this ordinance would be extremely difficult to enforce. He also noted that there were many disparaging comments about the Town needing to address the condition of its own roadways and ditches. It was the consensus of the members of the Planning Board not to support the proposed grass, weeds, and vegetation ordinance.

C. The Board reviewed the proposed litter ordinance and made the following revisions: (1) strike the words "used lumber" and change it to "wood debris" and (2) eliminate the 90day imprisonment term for violations.

On a motion by Joe Gurney, seconded by Ed Pellon, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 PM.