PLANNING BOARD - TOWN OF MACHIAS

MAY 3, 2017

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing was called to order at 7:00 PM to review newly revised flood maps for the Town of Machias and to receive citizen input and answer questions regarding these new flood maps. Topics discussed were the ability for property owners to obtain federal flood insurance, elevation data, improved information regarding coastal elevations; May 8th & 9th FEMA meeting to answer citizen questions; and, the appeals process. It was noted that these new maps were released to towns on January 17, 2017 and that the deadline for acceptance is on July 18th.

The second purpose of this public forum was to review and receive citizen comments on various proposed municipal ordinances (litter ordinance; grass, weeds and other vegetation ordinance; sign ordinance; driveway ordinance; vacant building ordinance; and, property maintenance ordinance regulating buildings and grounds). Citizens present at the hearing made suggestions to improve the proposed ordinances.

The public hearing was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

PLANNING BOARD MEETING

This meeting was called to order at 8:50 PM by Chairman William Thompson. In attendance were Board members Edward Pellon, Joe Gurney, David Barker, and Arthur McCurdy; Secretary Cathy Lord; Code Enforcement Officer Betsy Fitzgerald; James Whalen, Mark Mulvey, Carleen Lyford.

1. MINUTES - REVIEW AND ACTION

   On a motion by Arthur McCurdy, seconded by Ed Pellon, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2017 Board meeting.

   On a motion by Arthur McCurdy, seconded by Ed Pellon, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2017 Board meeting.

2. BUILDING PERMIT APPLICATIONS - REVIEW AND ACTION

A. The Board reviewed a building permit application submitted by Andrew Mulholland for the construction of a building to house a surveyor’s office on a lot located at 8 Mulholland Lane.

   On a motion by Ed Pellon, seconded by Arthur McCurdy, the Board VOTED:
   To approve a building permit application submitted by Andrew Mulholland for the construction of an office building to be located at 8 Mulholland Lane.
B. The Board reviewed a building permit application submitted by Mary Mulvey for the construction of a single family home to a lot located at 457 Kennebec Road. Mr. Mark Mulvey, representing the applicant, advised that Board that the property was purchased with the intent to renovate the existing home but it was found that the foundation is collapsing beyond repair.

On a motion by Ed Pellon, seconded by David Barker, the Board VOTED:
To approve a building permit application submitted by Mary Mulvey for the construction of a single family home to a lot located at 457 Kennebec Road.

3. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Carleen Lyford, representing the Sunrise County Economic Counsel, briefly discussed plans to renovate an existing building located on School Street; she noted that the organization is currently looking at and discussing options and have made no firm decisions. CEO Betsy Fitzgerald suggested discussing the driveway access with the Town’s Public Works Director.

B. Code Enforcement Officer Betsy Fitzgerald advised the Board that she was contacted by a representative of Dollar General regarding the size of the sign to be erected on that store’s proposed building site on the corner of Dublin Street and the Kennebec Road. She noted that the original proposal was for a six foot by sixteen foot sign to be set fifteen feet off the ground. Ms. Fitzgerald advised the Board that she suggested to Dollar General that a smaller size sign be placed on the site and the company’s representative accepted the suggestion of a five foot by twelve foot sign. Ms. Fitzgerald noted that the sign will say “Dollar General” and will be fully lit.

On a motion by Arthur McCurdy, seconded by Joe Gurney, the Board voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 PM.
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