

Pittston Planning Board Meeting Minutes-----August 12, 2021

Those present: Marlene Colvin, Terry Shepherd, Jim Lothridge, Jane Hubert, Pete Kelley, Jason Daugherty, Dan Taggart, Nick Sampson, Joe Caputo, Linda Caputo, Cody Kelley, Matt Barron, Rebecca Barron, Anna Barron, Dwayne Dumais, Diana Weymouth, Kevin Callaway, Matt Colvin and two others.

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Marlene Colvin at 6:33 p.m.

A quorum was established.

A pamphlet from Summit Natural Gas was in the mailbox and was reviewed.

Jane Hubert made a motion to approve the Planning Board meeting minutes of July 8, 2021, as corrected. Pete Kelley 2nd. It was a 5-0 vote.

Terry Shepherd said that he had spoken with ReVision Energy and the dead trees at the Fly Way Solar Farm were going to be replaced. Nick Sampson from ReVision Energy reported that three trees have been replaced.

Pete Kelley made a motion to approve the Special Pittston Planning Board meeting minutes of July 22, 2021. Jim Lothridge 2nd. It was a 6-0-1 vote.

Kelley Solar Farm Public Hearing

At this time, Pete Kelley recused himself from being a voting member of the Planning Board meeting.

Marlene Colvin reviewed the application. Nick Sampson answered all questions that anyone had. Diana Weymouth talked about CMP poles. Jane Hubert stated that DEP and the State are also involved in this process. There are guidelines for decommissioning covered by DEP and is also covered in the lease agreement. The life expectancy of this solar farm is 25 years with a possible 2-5 year extension. The solar farm should last 30-40 years. Diana Weymouth asked about the grass that will grow around the solar panels and was concerned that pesticides were going to be used. No pesticides will be used. Pete Kelley said they may use sheep. Nick Sampson said the grass is maintained twice per year. The solar arrays will be fenced in by a 7 foot chain link fence and a 15 foot buffer. Nick Sampson said that the goal is to start building in early 2022, February or March, and then put the solar arrays in summer time when things are dried out. They would like the project complete in 2022, but it may be finished in 2023. Revision gets approval from the Planning Board and then gets building permit. There will be very little added traffic to the Kelley Road.

Terry Shepherd made a motion to accept this application and the plans on file. Jim Lothridge 2nd. It was a 5-0-1 vote. An approval letter will be emailed to Nick Sampson. Nick Sampson said that if there are any minor changes he will email them to us.

Matt and Rebecca Barron

At this time Marlene Colvin recused herself from being a voting member of the Planning Board meeting. Terry Shepherd chaired this part of the meeting.

Matt and Rebecca Barron came in to request a change in the location of their roadway entrance. They provided pictures. The reasons for the proposed changes are: privacy, allow for orchard expansion, more direct route for guests, deliveries and emergency services, less dust at residence and lessen forest impact. The Barrons discovered after living in their home, the new request for the entrance would be best. The proposed entrance is a more direct route, away from their home. There will be no Glamping entrance on the Jewett Road.

Pete Kelley made a motion to accept the proposed change in roadway entrance as presented. Jason Daugherty 2nd. It was a 6-0 vote.

At this time, Marlene Colvin resumed Chairing the Planning Board meeting.

Jason Daugherty gave the Planning Board a copy of the proposed “Ordinance Regulating Medical Marijuana Establishments” for their review. Jason told the Board that the laws change quite often. A conversation was held. The question was asked if marijuana is still federally illegal and Pittston did not opt in, then why do we need an ordinance. Jason explained that the only thing that a Town can regulate is medical marijuana that would cover things such as a big grow house.

An appeals letter from Greg Bickford was shared with the Planning Board. Greg does not want the condition of 5 cars in the yard that he is working on at the same time. Jane Hubert stated that a different business found that they couldn’t restrict how many cars someone could have.

Jim Lothridge made a motion to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Terry Shepherd 2nd. It was a 6-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted by: _____
Debbie MacInnes, Planning Board Secretary

Marlene Colvin Terry Shepherd

Jim Lothridge Dan Taggart

Jason Daugherty Jane Hubert

Pete Kelley