

TOWN OF HOWARD PLANNING BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday, April 19, 2023

Planning board members present: James Fodge, Josh Furguson, Barry Kidder, Robin Phenes, Shane Slayton, William Thew

Absent: Sean Turner, Andrew Burdin; Excused: Brad Laverty

Guests: Richard Stewart

William Thew called the meeting to order at 7:07 pm and opened the floor to public comment. Richard Stewart provided the comment that he thought the highway superintendent would attend tonight's meeting because Lee Pyer's suggestions would help to move the logging discussion forward. William Thew noted that he spoke to Lee Pyer and Lee stated if the logging operation is happening within the right-of-way of a Town road, then he should be notified. His proposal for notification is specific to equipment with chains operating on Town Roads.

Josh Furgeson stated a logging law could discourage the logging industry, but there should be something in place to protect the Town. A notification could state what the loggers are allowed to do, and what they cannot do. For example, logs cannot be placed in the ditch.

Discussion turned to the Local Law Requiring Notification of Commercial Logging Operations in the Town of Howard, drafted by Jim Fodge. There was discussion that a notification law could be an appropriate way to proceed. After some suggested edits, William Thew agreed to make changes to the draft law and present the modified draft at the next Planning Board meeting.

Jim Fodge made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 15, 2023 meeting and Shane Slayton seconded the motion. Carried: Fodge, aye; Furguson, aye; Kidder, aye; Phenes, aye; Slayton, aye; Thew, aye.

The next Planning Board meeting will be held on May 17, 2023.

Shane Slayton made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm, seconded by Jim Fodge. Carried: Carried: Fodge, aye; Furguson, aye; Kidder, aye; Phenes, aye; Slayton, aye; Thew, aye.