

DRAFT

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Santora called the meeting to order at 7:00PM

ROLL CALL: Chairman Todd Santora, Vice Chairman Andy Brubaker (via phone), Selectman Representative Ed Beattie, Members Lisa Brown-Kucharski, Shawn Hanson, Eric Cimon

Not present: Abigail Tonry, Alternate Member Jon Ridzon

Non-voting: Building Inspector M. Sikorski and Circuit Planner G. Coppelman (via phone)

Chairman Santora opened the meeting and referenced the current pandemic situation, requesting that all attendees honor and respect social distancing practices. Also because of the Governor's State of Emergency declaration, this allowed attendees to join via phone.

REORGANIZATION OF THE BOARD

Nomination of the Election of Chairman

MOTION: Nomination of T. Santora for Chairman of the Board

MOTION: S. Hanson

SECOND: L. Kucharski

VOTE: Motion passes 5 in favor, 1 abstain (A. Brubaker)

MOTION: Nomination of E. Cimon for Vice Chairman of the Board

MOTION: T. Santora

SECOND: E. Beattie

VOTE: Motion passes, 4 in favor (T. Santora, E. Beattie, E. Cimon, S. Hanson), 2 opposed (L. Kucharski, A. Brubaker)

Chairman Santora recommended that we postpone the committee assignment to the next meeting due to the pandemic and attendance.

PUBLIC HEARING (Continued from February 25, 2020)

Case #20-02-01: Application from Until Service Corp. for Final Public Hearing for a Scenic Road Alteration permit to extend electric utility line Old Stage Road, also on Brown Road to service two new house lots on Brown Road. Tree trimming and removal required.

G. Coppelman reminded the Planning Board to invoke jurisdiction.

MOTION: To invoke jurisdiction on Cases #20-02-01

MOTION: L. Kucharski

SECOND: E. Cimon

UNANIMOUS

Bill Rayfield, Until Project Leader presented the four options that he had come back with following last month's meeting.

1. **Original Option – Extending the line on the Avery Ridge side of Old Stage Road** - \$13k to the builder, \$54,176 total cost
2. **West Side of Old Stage Road** - \$13k to the builder, \$58,582 total cost

3. **Extending on Blaisdell Property** – Brown Road - \$21,540 to the builder, \$74,065 total cost because it is a significantly longer run of line and more poles.
4. **Underground Private Line** – Thru Applecrest – 2500ft line with transformer – Easements required – all costs fall back on the developers - \$74,800 – w/Until credits \$62,558 (plus excavation/easements cost).

B. Rayfield said that he did not price out the option of underground along Old Stage Road because there were too many unknowns and it would be cost prohibitive. In discussion of the West Side of Old Stage Road option, B. Rayfield noted that the lines would require 10 ft clearance on all sides and 8 feet from the edge of pavement. There are 200 foot spans between poles and it would cross through intersection at Brown Road.

L. Kucharski asked if Comcast had been notified of the plan. B. Rayfield stated that it would be up to the Town to require that they remove their poles and/or run the lines on the new poles. G. Coppelman was asked if he had seen that mandate required in other towns and he had not.

B. Rayfield mentioned that the west side would require a clear cut for 10 ft. clearance. The original proposal on the Avery Ridge side would require less tree removal/impact.

S. Hanson felt that the west side option was least intrusive. L. Kucharski stated that she is in favor of the west side option. T. Santora stated that the initial proposal on the Avery Ridge side is least favorable. B. Rayfield mentioned that with the Blaisdell (Brown Road extension option) the bulk of the clearing would be at the intersection of Old Stage Road.

L. Kucharski recalled how beautiful the west corner of Old Stage Road used to be. There is a nice stone wall that is hidden by the brush that has grown in. E. Beattie said that he has walked the area and that the trees are tangled.

B. Rayfield stated that even with Town approval, Until will be required to get the Marsden property owner approval. He stated that they have reached out to the property owner and have only gotten a response from a lawyer. L. Kucharski stated that she thought that a Kiera Kettenbech owned that property and that she didn't think she would have an issue with the clearing because it would actually improve the property

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mike and Francine Carroll of 1 Avery Ridge Lane reiterated their concerns from the previous month that the poles and lines on the east side of Old Stage Road would stick out on their property and they like the idea of the west side. Added that the stonewall would be beautiful to see.

Luke Powell of 84 Brown Road, the property owner developing the homes said that he is just looking to get power to his property. He stated that he sympathizes with the neighbors but has concerns that he has not gotten a response back from the property owner and the possibility of additional delay. T. Santora asked L. Powell if he would be open to the Blaisdell extension and he stated that it would require some help with the funding to offset the additional cost.

B. Rayfield mentioned that there would be no impact to the stone wall, G. Coppelman wanted to confirm and also reminded that it is scenic road alteration. T. Santora asked if trees on both sides of the stone wall would need to be removed, B. Rayfield confirmed that yes this would be required. B. Rayfield acknowledged that L. Powell is absorbing a lot of cost. He stated that his arborist would be involved to approve and outline tree removal.

E. Cimon asked what would happen if they are unable to get property owner approval. G. Coppelman stated that we could approve multiple options and prioritize them, if the first cannot be facilitated, the second would be the back-up plan.

T. Santora closed public comment.

E. Beattie asked what the timeline is for the tree removal, B. Rayfield said that it is contingent on reaching the land owner. E. Beattie suggested that possibly the Town can assist with getting a hold of the property owner. He stated that he is not in favor of the Avery Ridge option. If we need to come back so be it. L. Kucharski seemed to think that there would be ways of getting a hold of her.

E. Beattie asked about the height of the poles and B. Rayfield confirmed that they would be 40 feet tall and possibly 45 feet on the corner where it crosses over Brown Road.

MOTION: To approve the applicant's request for Scenic Road Alteration permit as shown on submitted drawing for the west side of Old Stage Road subject to the following conditions:

1. Only trees shown on the drawing will be removed to give 10 feet of clearance.

MOTION: S. Hanson

SECOND: E. Cimon

VOTE: Motion passes, 5 in favor (L. Kucharski, T. Santora, E. Beattie, S. Hanson, E. Cimon), 1 abstain (A. Brubaker)

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES: February 25, 2020

T. Santora recommended that we postpone the approval of the previous month's minutes. There was no mention of continuing the Unitil case in the minutes. Also S. Hanson mentioned that we had discussed recording page C-2 with the Registry of Deeds.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:52 PM.

MOTION: L. Kucharski

SECOND: S. Hanson

UNANIMOUS