DRAFT Minutes of the 5 August 2020 Clifton, Maine Planning Board Meeting

The meeting was called to order at approximately 6:05 p.m. in the town office building. Present were Chairperson Bruce Jellison, Vice Chairperson David Cogdell, members Julie LaVertue, Vern Campbell, and alternate member Bruce Davis.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Chairperson Jellison designated Bruce Davis to be a member of Planning Board for this specific meeting.

Upon a motion by Vern/Julie and unanimous vote, the minutes of the 4 March 2020 Planning Board meeting were approved as written.

Upon a motion by Vern/Julie and unanimous vote, the minutes of the 12 March 2020 Special Planning Board meeting were approved as written.

In new business, Bruce Jellison discussed his research into using ZOOM as the mechanism by which the Board will conduct its public hearing for the Silver Maple project while ensuring compliance with State of Maine Covid-19 directives/guidelines. As envisioned by Bruce, the Planning Board, with the SWEB representative in attendance, will host the hearing at the town office building while the public will access the proceedings via ZOOM to include making any individual presentations/statements. Additionally, Bruce wants to use a workshop next week as a dry run to work through the process and identify any problem areas. Bruce noted that he had looked at other online alternatives, but ZOOM was the best option available.

Upon a motion by Bruce Jellison/David and unanimous vote, the Board approved conducting the workshop at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 12 August 2020 in the town office building.

Upon a motion by Bruce Davis/Vern and unanimous vote, the Board decided to not use mass mailings to announce the hearing but would focus on emails, using the town’s electronic sign, posting notices at local stores and in the town office building, sending notifications to neighboring towns and placing ads in local papers.

The press will be allowed in the town office building during the hearing. Members of the public who wish to make a presentation/statement via Zoom will be limited to five minutes as was decided at the 12 March 2020 special meeting.

Upon a motion by Vern/Bruce Davis and unanimous vote, the Board set the actual hearing date at 6:00 p.m. on 2 September 2020 in the town office building with the caveat that the actual hearing date will not be announced until after the workshop. This is a precautionary step in case significant technical problems surface during the dry run that could affect the hearing date.

In an unrelated matter, David noted that the titles of the Planning Board monthly minutes posted on the town’s website only contain the month and not the year which could cause confusion since there are several years of minutes posted. David will get with Debbie to determine the best way to fix the issue.

Upon a motion by Vern/Bruce Davis and unanimous vote, the meeting adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Vice Chairperson David Cogdell.