

## PLANNING BOARD

Monday, May 12, 2008  
Belmont Corner Meeting House  
Belmont, New Hampshire

Members Present: Chairman P. Harris; G. Flack, C. Patten, R. Caldwell and C. Long.  
Members Absent: W. Peterson and R. Davis.  
Alternates Present: W. Otto.  
Alternates Absent: W. Rollins  
Staff: C. Daigle, R. Ball and E. Murphy.

The chairman opened the meeting at 7 p.m. appointed W. Otto as a voting member for tonight's meeting.

**PUBLIC HEARING – TOWN OF BELMONT:** Proposal to remove certain trees growing within close proximity to the proposed road improvements being undertaken on a designated “Scenic Road” known as Cotton Hill Road. PB # 0908

R. Ball presented the application and explained he is looking for approval to authorize the cutting of trees for road improvements on Cotton Hill Road. Using slides R. Ball showed the trees that are going to be removed. He showed the big 6’ diameter pine tree and 8” diameter red oak tree on the edge of the road about 800’ from the beginning of Cotton Hill Road. Further up the road on the corner of Vineyard Way and Cotton Hill Road there is a 5’ circumference red oak tree that will be removed. Most of the trees are at the far end of road near the Gilford line. There are small clumps of trees with 5” circumference that will also be removed. Most of the trees are marked but there are a few that are not. There will be a rock lined swale for drainage.

Mr. Frank Sweeney stated that there are more trees that hang over the road. R. Ball stated they will also be removing a 6” red oak that is diseased. There may be more trees removed if during construction they determine they are in the way of the ditch, slopes or are a safety issue.

Ms. Kathy Sweeney wanted to know why they will have rocks in the swale instead of asphalt. R. Ball stated because the rocks reduce velocity and with asphalt the water flows too fast.

Mr. William Goetz wanted to know if the ditch will remain on the same side of the road as they have been for the last five years. R. Ball stated they will not change sides.

Ms. Ginger Wells-Kay wanted to know when this is going to happen. R. Ball stated that the

contract is going out this Wednesday and the work should start almost immediately. Ms. Wells-Kay stated that she read that Cotton Hill Road was made with substandard material. R. Ball stated that they will be getting rid of the pug mix and will put down new material.

Mr. Sweeney wanted to know if the stone walls would be moved. R. Ball explained that the roads would be moved so that the stone walls don't have to be. Mr. Sweeney wanted to know about the culvert pipes. R. Ball stated that they will be replacing the culvert pipes.

Ms. Sweeney wanted to know who is overseeing the project. R. Ball explained that would be Underwood Engineering and Public Works Director, Jim Fortin.

Mr. Sweeney wanted to know how wide the road is going to be. R. Ball stated that this application is for the cutting of trees and he doesn't have the road plans with him. He thinks it may be 20' - 22' wide but he would have to look at the plans. The plans are available for public review and he suggested that anyone with questions on the construction specs for the road review them at town hall. Mr. Sweeney stated that he is concerned about an increase in traffic speed if the road gets wider and smoother.

C. Patten wanted to know when the project would be starting. R. Ball stated that J. Parker and Daughters won the contract bid and this will be the first Belmont road project this year and they are just waiting to start. P. Harris wanted to know if this project will be done by the end of the year. R. Ball stated that it should be done before that.

Mr. Sweeney is concerned that frost heaves will tear up the road. Mr. Goetz stated that he never knew of any frost heaves on Cotton Hill Road. When the pug mix broke it resulted in pot holes. G. Flack stated that a lot of roads have pug mix and it has worked well.

P. Harris stated that they are cutting the trees close to the edge of the road for safety reasons.

The chairman asked if anyone in the audience had any questions or comments. There being none, he closed the public hearing.

### **BOARD'S ACTION – TOWN OF BELMONT:**

**MOTION:** C. Patten moved that the Town of Belmont be granted a permit to trim and/or remove trees along the entire length of Cotton Hill Road in Belmont under the terms of RSA 231:158 on the following conditions:

1. Permit shall remain in effect until December 31, 2008.
2. Work shall progress as represented during the public hearing and in the written submitted documents.

The motion was seconded by G. Flack and carried. (6-0)

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

**ELECTIONS: CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN:**

**MOTION:** C. Patten nominated P. Harris as the chairman.

The motion was seconded by G. Flack and carried. (5-0-1) P. Harris abstained.

**MOTION:** C. Patten nominated W. Peterson as vice-chairman.

The motion was seconded by G. Flack and carried. (6-0)

**STAFF REPORT:**

**REALTY RESOURCES TAX LOT 204-023:**

The chairman signed Realty Resources Notice of Decision.

**WINNISQUAM YATCH CLUB LLC TAX LOT 104-062:**

The chairman signed the site plan for Winnisquam Yacht Club.

**JAMES AND ANNEMARIE COVIELLO TAX LOT 212-067:**

Staff informed the Board that the applicant had requested to be continued to June 23, 2008. Staff will send a courtesy note to all abutters.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**MOTION:** On a motion by C. Patten, seconded by R. Caldwell, it was voted unanimously to adjourn at 7:28 p.m. (6-0)

Respectfully submitted,

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Elaine M Murphy  
Administrative Assistant