

## PLANNING BOARD

Monday, August 13, 2007  
Belmont Corner Meeting House  
Belmont, New Hampshire

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

The chairman opened the meeting at 7:08 p.m.

The Board discussed Impact Fees and the fact that some of the Board of Selectmen are in favor of them. C. Long asked if the Board could receive the minutes of past discussions on Impact Fees so that all members are familiar with past discussions. There was discussion on the fact that when impact fees are collected the money has to be ear marked for a certain project such as sidewalks or new town buildings and if the project is not done in a six year period the funds have to be returned. When people know there is money being put aside for a certain project they anticipate that project will happen. If at the end of the six year period not all the money is raised then the public may have to bond the additional fees as the public expected that the project/building would be done. There was also discussion on the administrative cost associated with managing the Impact Fees. The Board needs to determine if they want to proceed with Impact Fees before they dedicate too much time looking into them. There is concern that the public is under the impression that the Impact Fees will pay for an entire project or building. They don't understand that it will not cover the entire cost and additional money will have to be raised to complete some projects. The Board needs to educate the public on Impact Fees and what can and cannot be done with them.

The Board also discussed Growth Management and how the public is under the impression that it will stop growth completely instead of being a safety valve in case of a spike in building. They discussed that fact that if it was in place in the last two years there was not enough growth to trigger the safety valve based on the target numbers provided as a result of the housing studies done by Mr. Bruce Mayberry and Mr. Russ Thibeault.

The public needs to get involved and attend meetings to fully understand the principles behind Growth Management and Impact Fees. A lot of time and research has been done and now the public needs to be educated on the results of those studies.

The Board adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Elaine M Murphy  
Administrative Assistant