

**TOWN OF NORTHUMBERLAND
PLANNING BOARD MINUTES (DRAFT)
Weds., Oct. 7, 2020
Groveton PD/Ambulance Bldg. - Meeting Room
10 Station Square
Groveton, NH
7:00 P.M.**

During the meeting "social distancing" will be practiced and wearing of masks is strongly encouraged

Board members present: Al Rossetto, Chairman, James Weagle, Addie Hall.

Others present: Elaine Gray, Clerk, Mike Stanley, Robert Fernstrom, Mike Davies, David Brooks,

1. MINUTES of September 2, 2020 Meeting Al opens the meeting and asks for a motion to approve minutes from the Sept. 2, 2020 meeting. Jim makes motion, Addie seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

2. Transit X Podway – Proposal and Presentation – Mike Stanley

Al introduces Mike Stanley, founder of Transit-X. Mike then introduces his team. Robert Fernstrom, financial advisor, Mike Davies, in charge of projects from Maine and David Brooks who has been with Transit-X for 5 years and is involved with the build on Jericho Mountain where he owns property.

Addie: if you are building in Berlin why come here?

Mike Stanley: Northumberland is easier to work with than Berlin. Bob Chapman's property or Tom Weymss property are possibilities to build a factory in Groveton.

Explanation of how the system works and the pros: Less expensive than cars, and will decarbonize transportation because of their clean power. Will be built along transit and utility raceways. Intersections and stops will be built in. The pod is lowered to the ground for loading and unloading, they hold 4 passengers and are handicap accessible. Possible paths are Church St., the river path and Route 3. There will be no stairs, just a lift for loading and unloading. By building into existing infrastructure this will lower the cost per pod.

Mike Davies: Groveton is where the track for the pods would be produced.

Conversation on the use of Church Street.

Elaine: why the use of Church Street?

Mike S: As a test track to break in and test the pods.

Conversation by all on construction of track, weather conditions and their effects, speed of pods, and the talk of investors. Top speed 150mph on long distance runs, otherwise 45 – 55mph local. Wind is a factor and a of pod to run tracks to keep them clear of ice and snow. It costs about \$10 million per mile, this has been shown to investors.

Addie: How many investors are from the United States and how many are foreign?

Mike S: Money comes from all over and typically ends up in US banks.

More conversation on presentation for Select Board and Public Hearing. Problems with having public hearings at this time with Covid, also the need to publicize this new proposal.

More questions on road width, right of way issues.

Elaine suggests asking the road and water departments.

Mike Davies: The surveyors will also check. Find it interesting that Bob Chapman has an open building permit. Start building factory side while working on on path of travel.

Elaine asks how the monorails will be assessed and taxed.

Mike S: 5% of gross revenue

Al: the utility assessor will come by and assess.

More questions on how the taxes would be assessed, if power goes back on the grid, possibly in lieu of taxes. Discussion on phases of work, and the possible use of NSA to build some of the parts.

Discussion of business contacts to use, suggestions by Planning Board. Presentation is wrapped up and Al thanks them all for coming.

3. Thank you Letter

Al brings up the “thank you” letter to Gloria which all have signed and asks Elaine if she will mail. The resignation letter is brought up with discussion of whether it is official since it did not come to the Planning Board. The Selectmen received the letter and recognized it, so official.

4. Any Other Business To Come Before the Board

An FYI letter was presented from the Swallows stating that they no longer are looking for a special exception as they have moved, thanked everyone for the hard work.

Elaine mentions that the letter from the Swallows will have to go to the Zoning Board for record.

Elaine also mentions that she will be retiring from the Town on June 1, 2021.

Al thanks Elaine for her service.

Elaine asks if Addie knows the new Selectman.

Addie does not.

Elaine tells Addie that his name is William Caron.

Al asks for a motion to adjourn. Jim makes motion to adjourn at 8:11pm, Addie seconds, all in favor, 3-0.

Next meeting, November 4, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Kathan
Northumberland Planning Board Minute Taker

Minutes approved by Northumberland Planning Board Members on _____

X _____
James Weagle
Planning Board Member

X _____
Addison Hall
Planning Board Member

X _____
Ryan Shannon
Planning Board Member

X _____
Al Rossetto
Planning Board Chariman