

**PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC MEETING
TOWN OF LITCHFIELD**

Held on OCTOBER 4, 2016

minutes approved on 10/18/2016

The Litchfield Planning Board held a meeting in the Town Hall conference room 2 Liberty Way, Litchfield, NH 03052 on Tuesday, October 4, at 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Tom Young (Chairman), Russ Blanchette, Dave Samuel, Kimberly Queenan, Tyler Perrin (alternate), Steve Perry (Selectmen's Rep.),

MEMBERS ABSENT: Matt Shoemaker (Vice-Chairman), Mike Croteau

ALSO PRESENT: Jen Czysz (Assistant Director NRPC), Joan McKibben (P.B. Administrative Assistant)

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Young called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Tyler Perrin (alternate) is appointed as a voting member.

Public Input: No Public input on non-agenda items.

Litchfield Zoning section 1050.00 Telecommunication Facilities

Russ Blanchette has done some research on amateur radio antennas and felt our ordinance needed some attention.

The current ordinance reads in part the ordinance shall not govern antenna under 50 feet in heightThe existing ordinance is unclear if the 50 foot limit applies to tower or antenna. Russ further states in his supporting documentation that there have been legal determinations based on engineering analysis which clearly make any height limit unenforceable and in direct conflict with federal preemption.

Steve P. didn't see what the change would accomplish.

Russ B. The change would not govern any antenna structures used exclusively for amateur radio service.

Joan M. Asks how typically how tall are amateur radio antennas?

Russ B. 100 - 130 feet for global communications.

Kim Q. In residential areas?

Russ B. Yes, federal law overrides Town/State laws for communication towers.

Jen references chapter 474.

Russ B. an applicant could be denied because of the way our ordinance reads.

Russ suggests counsel should review.

Steve P. You are giving all control away with this change. We need to say exempt amateur radio from telecommunications section.

It was decided to clean-up the wording and bring ordinance back on the 10/18 agenda. Russ will re-word ordinance change.

NH Legislative Updates

1. Municipalities must permit accessory dwelling units. Accessory Dwelling Units have been discussed at prior meetings, changes will be made to have the town ordinance comply with new state regulations
2. More time for Planning Board to process applications. Litchfield requires an application be submitted to the planning board 21 days before the meeting.
3. Agritourism must be permitted where agriculture is permitted. No changes needed to Litchfield Zoning.
4. Voluntary and Involuntary Lot Mergers. Provides that a voluntary merger of lots under RSA 674:39-a may not be approved without the written consent of each holder of a mortgage on any of the lots. The burden is on the applicant but this should be on the procedural checklist.

Approval of Minutes

Steve Perry makes a MOTION to approve the September 6, 2016 minutes as presented. Russ B. seconds the motion. The motion passes 4-0-2.

Dave Samuel makes a MOTION to approve the September 20, 2016 minutes as presented. Russ B. seconds the motion. The motion passes 5-1-0.

A MOTION to adjourn was made by Steve Perry at 7:47 p.m. seconded by Dave Samuel. Motion passes 5-1-0.

Minutes transcribed by
J. McKibben

Next Planning Board meeting will be Tuesday, October 18 at 7:00 p.m. in the town hall conference room.

made a **MOTION** to adjourn at 8:10 p.m. motion seconded by Motion carries 6-0-0.

Minutes transcribed by
J. McKibben

