

TOWN OF CAMPTON  
PLANNING BOARD  
MEETING  
JANUARY 11, 2011  
MINUTES

The Planning Board met this date with Greg Jencks, Acting Chairman, Charles Brosseau, Kelly Bolger and Marsh Morgan, Ex-Officio.

Greg Jencks opened the meeting at 6:30 PM.

First on the agenda, the minutes from the December 14, 2010 meeting. Charles Brosseau made a motion to approve the minutes, as amended, for December 14, 2010 meeting. Marsh Morgan seconded the motion. The Planning Board voted in the affirmative, unanimously.

Next on the agenda, a Public Hearing for a proposed Zoning Amendment ( reviewed by the Town Attorney) by the Campton Planning Board to the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amend Article IV, to require that all high voltage direct current transmission lines, must be buried.

The Planning Board discussed that the Northern Pass project is the construction of a direct current (DC) transmission line that will link Hydro-Quebec's electrical system with New Hampshire and New England's electricity grid. The line will carry up to 1,200 megawatts. The Northern Pass is in the planning and permitting stages. Several steps need to be taken before the Northern Pass transmission project can move forward, including detailed environmental studies, consultations with the public, and the issuance of government permits. Jane Kellogg asked if there were height restrictions on the towers. Marsh Morgan said that there were no height restrictions on direct current lines. Charles Brosseau said that the lines were eight inches around and the towers are about 135 feet tall. The Mobil Station sign in Campton is 85 feet tall, just to give you an idea of how tall the towers are. James Aguiar wanted to know if you could transmit DC power over the AC lines. Marsh Morgan said that the Direct -current power lines can transmit large amounts of electricity more efficiently than AC systems. George Wright said that there was very little information on line about the project, and he did not like the project. The town received a booklet with very vague information. The maps attached did not show any alternate routes. Jim Aguiar wanted to know what the intent of the Planning Board was in having the lines buried in the proposed Zoning Amendment. Kelly Bolger said that the specifications are dictated by the power company, and the power company wants to use the towers. Marsh Morgan said that the Town of Campton would receive no benefit from the project, and it could hurt our tourist business and property values could go down. Marsh Morgan said that the amendment needed to be precise not vague. Jim Aguiar wanted to know if they could change the route. Kelly Bolger said that they will go with the path of least resistance. Charles Brosseau said that

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the towers would be seen as you come off Exit 27 to Route 49. Jim Aguiar wanted to know if the Town of Campton would receive tax revenue from the transmission lines. Marsh Morgan said that the town does not receive a major amount of revenue from the transmission lines. George Wright said that he has read that the towers range from 135 - 150 feet tall. Kelly Bolger said that there are a lot of questions about the health risks. Marsh Morgan said that New York wants to use the Northern Pass power, but does not want any of the towers. Jane Kellogg wanted to thank the Planning Board for being proactive on the Northern Pass Project.

Kelly Bolger made a motion to approve the Amendment proposed by the Campton Planning Board to the Town Zoning Ordinance as follows: Amend Article IV, to require that all high voltage Direct Current Transmission lines, must be buried. Charles Brosseau seconded the motion. The Planning Board voted in affirmative, unanimously.

Next on the agenda, Charles Brosseau said that he had been asked about the neon signs in the Campton Plaza. Marsh Morgan said that interior neon signs are legal.

The Planning Board adjourned at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

May Brosseau  
Campton Planning Board .

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