

TOWN OF TEMPLE  
TEMPLE LAND USE COMMITTEE

June 27, 2020 Meeting  
Final Minutes

Chairman Fiske called the meeting to order at 8:01 in the parking lot of the Temple Elementary School (TES).

Committee members in attendance: Tim Fiske, Allan Pickman, George Willard, Honey Hastings, Christine Robidoux, Connie Kieley, Scott Hecker and Kathy Boot.

Other attendees: Gail Cromwell and John Kieley.

Motion by Tim Fiske, seconded by George Willard to accept the minutes of the June 6 meeting as amended. Approved unanimously.

Tim reviewed the history of the Town owned lot adjacent to TES. ConVal had purchased a much larger parcel than needed for the school so sold the northern portion to the Town (18.45 acres) and the southern portion to the Bradler family. ConVal purchased the original parcel from Junior Holt.

The town subsequently constructed a ballfield partially on its property and partially on TES property with ConVal permission. The dividing line is approximately at the pitcher's mound. The ballfield was subsequently abandoned due to lack of use. The open field area has a clay base and therefore drains poorly.

The property runs to the pumping station land to the north and abuts Bradler's properties to the east. The western side of the property is very flat; the eastern side falls off into a ravine where the brook taking the reservoir overflow runs.

Tim commented that the property is too far from the Town's geographical center to be a good candidate for relocating the Highway Department. It was noted that if the fence were removed, the field could be hayed. Tim had no suggestions at this time for possible use of this piece of property.

At 8:34 the meeting was relocated to the Peterborough Road/Route 45 intersection.

Chairman Fiske discussed the history of the four Town owned lots on Route 45. Tim had met with the abutter earlier to advise them of the on-site meeting and they expressed a possible interest in purchasing some of the land.

Tim advised that the two lots closest to Town have challenging sight lines on Route 45 and a shared driveway could be necessary. Existing problems in Town with shared driveways was referenced.

The two northern lots have very steep terrain at the back which could require new construction close to the road. A possible access point from Peterborough Road was found to be off the property.

The terrain, access issues and a relatively busy road for Temple were thought to negatively impact market values.

John Kieley pointed out that there is a permanent trail easement running from the back of the parcel closest to Town to Whitcomb peak. Having good access to the Wapack Trail, this could be a part of a town wide trail system if access from Rt 45 is secured across this parcel.

George Willard referenced a three-acre parcel abutting the beaver pond on the Chris Weston land.

Honey confirmed that the Town, pending multiple approvals, had approved consideration of a Town owned lot for a Historical Society building. It was also suggested that if the Highway Department did move, land behind the Library might be a consideration but it was noted that details on size, cost and use was necessary to determine a suitable lot.

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held on July 11 at 8:00 AM. The meeting will start at the Municipal Building parking lot and a walk of the land behind the building. After that walk, the Committee will drive to the Town Hall and walk the land currently occupied by the Highway Department.

Motion to adjourn at 9:12 by Tim Fiske, second by Honey Hastings. Unanimously approved.