Town of Temple
Temple Land Use Committee
April 21th 2021 at 7 PM Public Forum
2021 Recommendations and Warrant Articles
Final Minutes

Public Forum opened at 7 PM by T. Fiske

State of Emergency Checklist read by T. Fiske

Committee Members in Attendance: Tim Fiske, Christine Robidoux, Kathy Boot, Scott Hecker, Honey Hastings

Ken Caisse in attendance representing the Select Board

Absent: Allan Pickman, Deborah Harling, George Willard, Lilliane LeBel

Total participants: 12 (including 5 committee members)

Hastings point of order to table the review of minutes to the end of the meeting. All in agreement.

T. Fiske began presentation using the slides shared on the screen with participants.

A pdf version is available on the town website on the TLUC webpage:

https://www.templenh.org/temple-land-use-committee-tluc

Additional information shared during this presentation:

<u>Regarding Lot 6B-19-1</u> (18.45 acres), located next to TES, and including part of the baseball field and fence.

- Rob Wills, Chair of the Temple Renewable Energy Task Force, shared information regarding this lot being considered for a solar array to supply power to the municipal buildings, and perhaps more. He spoke with T. Fiske regarding the suitability of this land, and C. Robidoux regarding the discussion of using this lot for future affordable housing development. All are in agreement that this is an ideal location to explore for both of those possibilities and in fact the two projects are complementary and will allow for additional grant opportunities when paired together in one project. The Renewable Energy Task Force estimates an area of 200 feet by 15-20 feet would be needed for this project. The cleared area near the ballfield is the best south facing site for the solar array. The Task Force has already spoken with NH DES regarding the drinking water/reservoir regulations around development and they have said that no additional setbacks are needed for any development on this lot. The Task Force is still looking at any additional restrictions/regulations or complications with this site before the design stage. It was pointed out that town owned land is not subject to the same zoning regulations as privately owned land when it is used for a government project, however the Planning Board should still be involved. R. Wills also discovered that the reservoir is actually state owned, not owned by Greenville as previously thought.
- A future Community Power project would lower electricity costs for residents, and likely provide income for the town.

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- R. Wills requested suggestions for other committees, boards, or local organizations to bring into the conversation. Suggestions included: the Planning Board, the School District, Land Use Committee, the Parent group at the elementary school, and the Community Advisory Committee. The Select Board is already aware of this proposed project.
- In general, the Task Force will continue their research and plan to report to all interested parties, including all residents, as they have information to share.

<u>Regarding Lot 7A-35</u> (16.44 acres), the triangle lot that includes the municipal building and schoolhouse #6, near the village center:

- The Conservation Commission has done some research in preparation for the proposed warrant article to put a section of this lot into a permanent conservation easement. It is possible that the town can apply for an LCHIP grant to cover any costs to put this into conservation. The Monadnock Conservancy may also be able to assist, if voters agree to this at town meeting in June.
- A. Krulis asked if this land could still be used for wildflowers, or a pollinator garden, or
 other uses in keeping with the spirit of conservation if it is put into an easement. Hecker
 responded "Yes". Any easement would specify allowable and prohibited uses so that the
 property could be managed "gently".

Regarding the Temple Historical Museum:

- Hastings confirmed that a location in the village center, preferably attached or adjacent to the library would be the preferred location for a Historical Museum.
- Estimated size is approximately the size of the red schoolhouse.
- A reminder that the Historical Society has its own funding to build, once a location is approved.
- Hastings sees this is a cooperative arrangement with the town, and that the new building would store old town documents in a climate controlled environment that would be easily accessible to the public for research purposes.

Regarding the Highway department relocation:

- V. Wills pointed out that there are a number of boards & committees who use the upstairs of the town hall for storage and this is not ideal. If part of the current highway garage could be used for storage that would be really helpful.
- A. Krulis pointed out that moving the highway department is very much in keeping with revitalizing the village center. Putting the triangle parcel in conservation is also a part of that, and would address fears of over development in town. The land to the north of the proposed highway relocation site is in conservation, to Fiske's knowledge, with the exception of the privately owned parcel just south of the site.

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Regarding Warrant Article #11, and Lots 2B-75-3 and 2B-75-4:

• It was suggested that painting a pedestrian crossing on Route 45 for the hiking trail connection would be a good idea, as well as putting up signs to alert drivers of a trail crossing. This is a state road, so state approval would be required.

Miscellaneous Questions:

• R. Wills wondered if the Skladany land might be suitable for a larger solar array in the future. More research is needed to determine the answer. The Land Use Committee recommends retaining this land, as was intended when it was purchased in 2005.

Review and approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes of January 28th made by Hastings, second by Hecker. Unanimous approval by roll call vote.

Motion to approve minutes of February 25th made by Hastings, second by Hecker. Unanimous approval by roll call vote.

Reminder that the town meeting is scheduled for Saturday, June 12th. Caisse reports that the Select Board will discuss details at their next meeting on Tuesday, April 27th at 6:30 PM via zoom. The town meeting will be a socially distanced outdoor meeting.

Motion to adjourn by Robidoux, second by Hecker. Roll call vote unanimous.

Meeting/Forum adjourned at 8:45 PM.