

## Planning Board Meeting April 30 2026 @ 6:33 p.m: Worthington Town Hall

### In Attendance

Bart Niswonger  
Kathy Ford  
Kate Bavelock  
Nestor Mathews  
Anna Maunz  
Timothy Sena  
Catherine Rude-Sena  
Julie Grome  
Ben Brown  
Steve Stromm  
Emily Larabee  
John Sullivan  
James Downey  
Helen Sharron Pollard  
Annie Lagoy

### **Agenda:**

- **Discussion of annual tree cutting hearing for work on Lindsey Hill Road**
  - Highway department wants to do work on Lindsay Hill Road
  - Ben Brown is here for discussion
    - All the trees involved need to be quantified and open for public comment
    - A lot of live trees are going to need to be cut: at least dozens around 1/4 mile up Lindsey hill road- mostly surrounded by state land
    - Trees are all marked along that part of the road
    - UP to Highway Department to determine tree postings
    - Ben will connect with Highway Department about how to move forward.
- **Discussion of 190 Ridge Road**
- **Site Visit recap**
  - Site visit on April 24th. Pare was in attendance. Blue wave representative: Olivia was there as well as a lot of town representatives and board. Useful to walk the land. No testimony gathered and no deliberation.
  - Ben is asking about plan from Eversource.
    - Interconnection agreement is in the application. Ben believes there is missing information.
      - 3/4 of a mile in 3 phase
      - Nestor will reach out to his contacts about Eversource
- Kate wants to ask Blue Wave at next public hearing about 3.3.F: what happens when a parcel crosses two different zoning districts
- **Technical Review report**
  - A lot of information is missing
  - Kate has a list of missing information:
    - Hydrology/ geotechnical review
    - Fracturing of the bedrock
    - Pole system: mitigate damage to site: do we require screw posts?
    - Ground water monitoring plan: before, during, after
    - Drinking water monitoring plan

- Drinking water hazardous release plan
- Storm water infiltration analysis
- Abutters wells and septic
- Vibration study/ impact for abutters
- Capture ambient noise before to assist in the noise analysis.
- Fire chief report

- **Public Comment**

- John Sullivan reads letter about well heads.
- Zoning map from 2020.
- Tim Sena goes over maps he and John put together.
- Building Inspector will be sending more letters from DEP
- The Planning board has to use the legal map
- Catherine Sena would like to make clear that it isn't possible for Blue Wave to give answers until there is a permit.
  - February 26: Senas felt threatened at meeting by Steve Coyne
  - Question about the accuracy/ approval of the map
- Annie Lagoy is worried about site line analysis. Would like the engineer to come to her property.
  - Noise issue
- Impact to traffic and water systems
- Conversation about people feeling threatened on both sides of this issue
- Request of police officer at next public hearing
- Helen asks if the engineer has received a copy of the DEP letter/ NOI. : no

- **Discussion of citizen's petition on Town Meeting Warrant**

- About Town Counsel second opinion: whatever is decided is non-binding

- **Discussion of DOER proposals & regional advocacy**

- Nestor sent in public comments
- PVPC: let them hear the issues we as a small town are facing. Response from board members was encouraging
  - Nestor following up
  - Home rule moratorium: no real timeline

Kate and Nestor attended webinar on power grid tools: not a very good tool for municipalities rather for the power companies.

- Kate discusses her meeting with Hilltown CDC
  - follow up discussion about having a town representative to deal with staffing issues
  - How to advocate regionally to accommodate the new regulations.
  - Dave Christopolis: May 8th - ways for towns to advocate together
    - Top idea: have applicant pay for consulting fee: A new fee then needs to translate into a staff resource.: updated 53G
    - Position at PVPC? PVPC has not been responsive
    - Dave thought he could piggy back onto a grant
    - Dave talking to Ann Goby and state reps.
    - One planning board member/ one Board of Health member

- **Discussion of local bylaw changes**

- We need to change some bylaws: what are the priorities
  - Need to update ADUs
  - Solar by law
  - Special Permit
  - Protection of our natural/ water resources

- Utility projects
- Frontage
- Question of fee change.

- **Discussion of priorities / ToDos particularly around ADUs and "frontage"**

- Working back from special town meeting in the Fall?
- If the moratorium holds is a different time line than if it doesn't.
- Set schedule and start the process

- **Public Comment**

- Annie Lagoy: Look at town of Ashfield bylaws
- Old Post Road Con Com meeting issues of water came up

- **Correspondence**

- Discussion of.

- **Other business**

- Anna: To Dos: Make a list of To Dos from past meetings

- **Approval of past minutes**

- Meeting adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

*Kathleen Anderson*  
BN  
Kate B  
A. Lagoy