

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS

TOWN OF GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
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Zoning Board of Appeals Minutes of June 15, 2009 Middle School Cafeteria 195 Federal Street

Chairman Roy Cowdrey called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the following members present:

PRESENT: Roy Cowdrey, Chairman Thomas McLellan, Clerk Susan Welenc
Mark Maloney Scott Cote Howard Barnard, Alternate
Scott Conti, Alternate

ALSO PRESENT: Attorney Maurice Cahillane representing the Town; Eric Twarog, Senior Planner/GIS Coordinator; Jeff Terrell from WHAI; a crew from GCTV; and members of the public.

Public Hearings:

7:00 p.m. Pioneer Renewable Energy, LLC – Request for special permits to allow: i) the construction of a 47 MW biomass-fired power plant, including ancillary buildings and structures, access roads, fuel storage areas, parking area and utility construction, ii) the height of the structures and buildings to extend above fifty (50) feet, and iii) activities exceeding the noise standards set forth in Section 200-6.8(C2) of the Zoning Ordinance within the Planned Industry (PI) Zoning District.

Twarog made a sign-in sheet available for people who wanted to speak on the project. Zoning Board of Appeals Clerk Tom McLellan explained the rules and procedures of the hearing and the filing process. McLellan read the public notice into the record. Members sitting were Roy Cowdrey, Tom McLellan, Mark Maloney, Susan Welenc, and Scott Cote. Also in attendance were ZBA Alternates Howard Barnard and Scott Conti, Matthew Wolfe of Madera Energy, Cliff Orvedal of Madera Energy, Dale Raczwmski of Epsilon Associates, Damien Bell from Epsilon Associates, John Irving from Burlington Electric, Robert Michaud of MDM Transportation Consultants, Inc., Eric Nelson from SVE Associates, Tony Wonseski from SVE Associates, and Ellen W. Freyman, Esq. from Shatz, Schwartz and Fentin, P.C.

McLellan introduced the Board members sitting and asked the Applicant to introduce himself and his consulting team and explain what he wants to do. Mr. Wolfe handed out a document to the Board for his presentation on renewable energy, air, water, traffic, clean wood, ash, and noise and introduced himself and his team to the Board. Mr. Wolfe proceeded to give his presentation on the project. Members of the audience sitting in the back of the room began to complain that they could not hear the speaker. This continued for several minutes until a member of the Greenfield Fire Department arrived and motioned for Board member Maloney to speak to him. McLellan called a halt to the meeting until Board member Maloney returned. After several minutes, Board member Maloney returned and notified the Board that the room was filled beyond capacity and that they needed to move upstairs to the auditorium. McLellan announced to the audience that the Fire Department has advised the Board to move upstairs to the auditorium. At approximately 7:25 p.m. the Board made the following motion:

MOTION: Moved by Cote, seconded by Welenc, and voted 5:0 to move the meeting upstairs to the auditorium.

The Meeting reconvened at 7:51 p.m.

McLellan asked Mr. Wolfe if he had anything to add to his presentation. Mr. Wolfe stated that he did not. McLellan opened the public hearing up for public comment and explained that Greenfield residents will get to speak first, then people from other communities. Seventy (70) people signed up to speak, see attached sign-in sheets hereby made a part of these minutes. Sixty (60) people spoke at the public hearing.

MOTION: Moved by Maloney, seconded by Cote, and voted 5:0 to continue the public hearing to Thursday, June 25, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. at the Greenfield High School Cafeteria.

Adjournment:

MOTION: Moved by Welenc, seconded by Maloney, and voted 5:0 to adjourn the meeting at 12:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Twarog, AICP
Senior Planner/GIS Coordinator