

**PITTSFORD ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD**

APPROVED Minutes

August 2, 2021

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Stephen Heinzelman, Julie Marcellus, Jim Pippin, Jackie Ebner

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Doug DeRue, Director of Planning Zoning & Dev., April Zurowski, Environmental Board Secretary, Stephanie Townsend, Town Board Liaison

There were 0 members of the public present.

**ABSENT:** Seth O'Bryan, Hali Buckley, Lindsay Clark

**CHAIRMAN:** Stephen Heinzelman

Chairman Heinzelman opened the meeting at 7:03 pm.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES:**

Board Member Jim Pippin made a motion to approve the minutes of June 7, 2021. Chairman Steve Heinzelman seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved following a unanimous voice vote.

**TOWN BOARD UPDATE:** Stephanie Townsend

Town Board Member Stephanie Townsend began conversation with Doug DeRue in regards to the current issue with the canal tree clearing in Pittsford. Doug informed the board that the Town Attorney, Robert Koegel, is currently working on comments to the Canal Corporation, targeting the holes in their plan and questioning the reasoning behind the clearing. The board discussed how the original plan was a very small area, but has since grown into a proposal for nearly the entire canal. Board Member Jim Pippin questioned Mr. DeRue about the length associated with the project. Mr. DeRue stated that the proposal must contain reasonably specific language for the area or coverage and that limits must be in place.

Board Member Julie Marcellus mentioned that during her attendance at the Power Authority Clear Cut Meeting, residents from Bushnell's Basin raised concerns about how the project will negatively affect businesses and privacy for many homes along the canal. Chairman Heinzelman questioned if neighboring towns have raised concerns. Town Board Member Townsend stated that Perinton and many others have voiced their opinions on the topic. Board Member Pippin shared the idea that a third party group of environmental advocates should monitor the contractors during the tree clearing.

Town Board Member Townsend shifted the conversation to resume composting discussion from the previous meeting in June. She stated that per her conversation with the Town's Highway Department, there may be a way to combine composting pick-up with the containerized weekly pick-up that is already in place. She suggested that Board Member Jackie Ebner reach out to Paul Schenkel, the Commissioner of the Department of Public Works, in regards to the matter. The board conversed about how animals may be attracted to the compost if placed near the road and how the cost of the pick-up will be factored. Board Member Ebner suggested that the project may be funded if associated with a food waste education program in local schools.

**PLANNING BOARD UPDATE:** Doug DeRue, Staff Liaison

Doug DeRue began the Planning Board update by reviewing previously discussed projects and informing the board of the current stage of construction each is in. He stated that Bridleridge construction should be starting soon, nearly a month later than expected. Alpine Ridge has started work and lots of machinery is to be expected on the site. However, this is not a particularly environmentally sensitive project. McDonald's has given the Town building plans and the store is exterior will be completely modernized. The Cottages at Oak Hill plans are currently in progress and they are planning to propose more projects in the near future.

Mr. DeRue extended conversation to include new and future expected applications, beginning with the Canfield Road Subdivision application. He informed the board that the subdivision must go through the Planning Board process, and that the owner has shown interest in developing the other piece to include a home in the future. At this time, no building application has been submitted, though. Mr. Cohen, the owner of the site, is planning to remove nearly 60% of trees, most dying Ash trees. There will be no high-value stream impact on the site.

Similarly, the Town is expecting an application from 2590 Clover Street. This application is a re-subdivision of land, moving acreage from the historic home to the other lot, 2594 Clover Street. The re-subdivision must go through Planning Board because the site is zoned residential and is a large property for its location. The historic home currently has a large cushion of land to protect it. The proposed re-subdivision does not include land that is designated historic.

The Town is also expecting an application from Dish Network to extend coverage with the tower located at 123 South Main Street, also known as Pittsford Community Church. The application proposes further antennas to be placed inside the existing bell tower. The Planning Board may require further landscaping of the site for approval. Doug DeRue stated that the Town is expecting drawings sometime this week.

Another application is expected for the existing tower located at Linden Park. The region is zoned Light Industrial. The project will propose a tower extension of 20 feet. Currently, Town Code states that the maximum tower height is 100 feet, but this tower already has a variance for 135 feet. With the new application, the future height of the tower is proposed to be 155 feet. Mr. DeRue stated that the Planning Board must review an updated Visual Impact Statement and an Environmental Assessment Form. In addition, the board must determine the true benefit of the proposed extended coverage associated with having a higher tower. Because the tower will be a zoning code violation, the Planning Board process is required.

**OTHER DISCUSSIONS:**

Chairman Heinzelman adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Respectfully,

April Zurowski  
Secretary to the Environmental Board