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Approved with changes: \_\_\_\_\_  
Unapproved: \_\_\_\_\_

**Effingham Planning Board**  
**68 School Street, Effingham**  
**March 7, 2019**

**Members Present:** Mike Cahalane, Theresa Swanick, Grace Fuller, George Bull, and Gary Jewell

**Members Absent:** Paul Potter, Bull, Elaine Chick

**Others Present:** Nate Fogg, Rebecca Boyden, Linda Edwards, Blair Folts, & Mozelle Spiller

Meeting called to order at 6:30pm, with a quorum.

**Minutes**

The minutes of February 7<sup>th</sup> 2019 were reviewed.

**Mike Cahalane made a motion to approve the February 7, 2019 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by George Bull. The motion carried with 4 in favor and none opposed.**

The minutes of February 21<sup>st</sup> 2019 were reviewed.

**Mike Cahalane made a motion to approve the February 21, 2019 minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Grace Fuller. The motion carried with by 3 in favor, none opposed, and one abstention (George Bull.)**

Gary Jewell arrived after the votes on the minutes.

**Public Comment**

Blair Folts brought up concerns about recent timber harvesting operations in town. She wondered who approves an Intent to Cut form? She is concerned that logging has occurred on steep slopes. Did the planning board review the projects, and did they receive a Special Use Permit before the work started? She commented that there did not appear to be appropriate BMPs in place to prevent damage to the slope or degradation of the road.

The planning board and zoning officer noted that the loggers only need to fill out a state, intent to cut form and file it with the Selectmen's Office. No one issues a permit. It was also noted that the are exempt from the zoning ordinance per Section 1705 of the Effingham Zoning Ordinance. The steep slope section of the zoning ordinance applies to development in town, whether residential or commercial.

Ms Boyden does not look for these types of problems, however she will research who to contact if anyone believes they see a problem in the future. She will check with the proper department at

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the state to determine how to report a potential violation and what information and/or level of detail is required to file a suspected violation.

Theresa Swanick asked why the town has a section 1705 if the zoning ordinance if the town has no control over logging operations.

The Conservation Commission gets copies of intent to cut forms, perhaps they can be a little more proactive to look out for steep slope issues. This may minimize damage to roads and minimize erosion problems.

Linda Edwards and Mozelle Spiller were also in attendance to bring attention to and discuss logging operation concerns and how they relate to the steep slopes ordinance in town.

### **Correspondence**

The Governor Wentworth Regional School District (GWRSD) asked about placing a solar array in Effingham last October. There has been additional communication back and forth and they will attend the April planning board meeting to discuss moving forward with the project. The GWRSD is not exempt from planning board review because they are not a town entity.

### **Old Business - Rules of Procedure**

The planning board discussed the changes to their Rules of Procedure. They are pleased with the changes. The entire Rules of Procedure has been read at the two previous meetings as required by the rules.

**Gary Jewell made a motion to approve adopt the revised Rules of Procedure. The motion was seconded by Grace Fuller. The motion carried with all members in favor (5-0).**

### **Old Business – Subdivision Regulations**

The current subdivision regulations appear to be missing a portion of section 5. Specifically section 5.2. It appears to be a text formatting error, however, section 5.2 subsection 2 & 3 appear to be missing or have been deleted. No member remembers any action to remove those subsections and the board agreed that the section had been dropped unintentionally. Section 5.4 (E) is also missing. Members want to make sure that it matches current DOT minimum design standards, which were last revised in 2003. The planning board may also look into access to water for fire fighting to see if the subdivision regulations meets current needs.

The planning board plans to check the issues and present a revised ordinance for approval as soon as possible.

### **New Business**

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Election of new officers will take place at the April 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. Also on the agenda is a public hearing for the revised subdivision regulations and a discussion of the solar array for the school in Effingham for GWRSD.

Rebecca Boyden presented her monthly report.

### **Adjournment**

**Grace Fuller made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by George Bull. The motion carried with all in favor (5-0). The meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.**