

Place: Raymond High School Media Center

Call to Order: 7:11 p.m.

Members Present: Bill Cantwell, Chairman; Peter Buckingham, Vice Chairman; Steve Naoum, Secretary; Frank Bourque, Alternate Selectmen's Representative; Jonathan Wood; Gretchen Gott.

Staff Present: Ernest Creveling, Community Development Director; Sharon Somers, Town Counsel; Robert Price, Planning Technician.

Pledge of Allegiance

Public Hearings – Thibeault Excavation Permit Renewal

An application for Renewal of an Excavation Permit for Thibeault Sand & Gravel, LLC. The properties are shown on Raymond Tax Map 32, Lots 43 and 68; and Map 38, Lots 12 and 13.

Chairman Cantwell stated that random well testing of the wells was requested, and during the testing some contamination was found.

MOTION: Frank Bourque made a motion to have the Town's Engineer not only test all existing monitoring wells on the site, but to also have them make recommendations on which wells at the site should be abandoned. Gretchen Gott seconded for discussion. **DISCUSSION:** Gretchen Gott asked if the Board should request the Engineer to make a recommendation on how to abandon the wells. Frank Bourque replied they should do that as well. **VOTE:** The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

MOTION: Frank Bourque made a motion to extend the existing excavation permit for Thibeault Sand & Gravel, LLC for properties shown on Raymond Tax Map 32, Lots 43 & 68; and Map 38, Lots 12 & 13 to December 31, 2007. Peter Buckingham seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

MOTION: Frank Bourque made a motion to continue the hearing for renewal of an Excavation Permit for properties shown on Raymond Tax Map 32, Lots 43 & 68; and Map 38, Lots 12 & 13 to October 11, 2007. Steve Naoum seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

Public Hearings – Thibeault Quarry

An application for an Amended Excavation Plan has been submitted by Thibeault Sand & Gravel, LLC, on land known as Nashua River Land Corporation, to amend their Excavation Permit to add a quarrying operation. The properties are shown on Raymond Tax Map 32, Lot 43; Map 32, Lot 68; Map 37, Lot 2; and Map 38, Lots 12 and 13; accessed via NH State Route 27.

Vinnie Iacozzi of Thibeault Sand & Gravel, LLC stated that he is not trying to be adversarial, but merely preserving the record. Mr. Iacozzi made a request that Jonathan

Wood recuse himself from these proceedings under RSA 673:14, citing the same reasons he brought up at the August 9, 2007 public hearing. Jonathan Wood responded he would not stand down for the same reasons he gave at the August 9, 2007 public hearing.

Mr. Iacozzi brought up the following information about Raymond Sand & Gravel, which is in operation roughly across the street from Thibeault Sand & Gravel's proposed quarry:

- Both are situated above the same aquifer.
- Raymond Sand & Gravel (RSG) is roughly similar to what Thibeault Sand & Gravel (TSG) proposes in terms of equipment and size.
- RSG operates via Special Exception granted by the Zoning Board of Adjustment. It is not a permitted use in the C.1 (Commercial) Zone.
- RSG does not have any monitoring wells located on their property.
- RSG does not have a buffer zone.
- RSG has a cut slope that backs up immediately to a residential area and right from the property line they begin their cut.

Mr. Iacozzi requested that the Board consider the Equal Protection Clauses in the State Statutes when the time comes for a final decision to be made.

Mr. Iacozzi stated for the record that the TSG proposal is a permitted use, as they are located in an Industrial (I) Zone.

Mr. Iacozzi stated for the record, that the cap on the contaminated well was removed after new caps and locks had been installed by TSG. TSG has been inspecting the wells twice a week. Mr. Iacozzi stated that the well was contaminated with human waste. The contamination was cleaned up via portable containment and cleanup unit, which was brought to the site via a Bobcat as the well is located along the river. He stated the well was pumped three times, chlorinated, and then pumped twice more.

Brent Tardif of Continental Placer, Inc. made a presentation about drilling and blasting to the Planning Board. A copy of this presentation is attached to the original set of minutes on file in the Town Clerk's office.

Jonathan Wood asked if the 1,500 foot radius that TSG has promised to conduct pre-blast surveys was to be from the edge of the quarry as completed. Mr. Iacozzi stated that was correct.

Jonathan Wood asked how the applicant proposed to test the quantity of the wells. Mr. Tardif explained they proposed to do a short-term pump test, which would entail the following:

- With homeowner permission, they would use a hose with flow-meter, and use a meter that operates on sonar.
- They would turn on an outdoor spigot. The sonar meter constantly sends a pulse which measures the surface of the well, measuring the draw-down.

- Once the water is no longer being drawn-down, the water is shut off, and measurements are then taken to see what the recharge time is.
- All of these activities are timed.

Jonathan Wood asked about static levels in the wells, and asked what the applicant's plan was to explain a drop during the course of blasting. Mr. Tardif explained that Ann Logan Circle is on a topographic high; higher than the proposed quarry. He explained the excavation process, and how it would be a stair-stepping excavation. Mr. Tardiff stated if static levels are reduced, property owners should notify TSG, and they would investigate the situation. Mr. Wood asked what the remedy would be if static levels were confirmed to have dropped. Mr. Tardif stated water-bearing fractures in the bedrock that currently service the wells will not be increased or decreased.

Chairman Cantwell asked what point in time does TSG accept responsibility if there is an issue with the well. Mr. Tardif responded that an investigation would reveal if the well failed as a result of the quarrying operation.

Mr. Wood stated static levels do change. However, Mr. Wood stated he trying to find out what threshold would cause TSG to say that the well has been affected by the quarrying operation rather than environmental or other seasonal conditions. Mr. Iacozzi stated the measure would be through the water quantity and quality, determined at the initial testing. When the draw-down level gets too deep and the recovery time becomes too long, we would investigate the situation to determine a cause. Mr. Iacozzi stated this would be on a per-person basis.

Frank Bourque stated that wells could end up with some sediment in them, and it would be wise for people to put a filter on their well if they experience this.

Frank Bourque asked how airblasts can be affected by atmospheric conditions. Mr. Tardif stated that airblasts have a tendency to go straight up on clear days, and on cloudy days they are refracted back down.

Jonathan Wood asked if part of the water quality test would be for suspended particles. Mr. Tardif responded yes. Mr. Wood asked if the applicant would pay for filtration if suspended particles become a problem. Mr. Iacozzi stated filtration is not the only remedy. He stated in some cases raising the pump a few feet may be the solution. In either case, he stated the applicant would pay for the solution.

Gretchen Gott asked if particulates found in the wells would be identified as to what they are. Mr. Tardif explained their proposed test is a potability test, which does not identify what the specific particulates are.

Gretchen Gott asked how close to property lines the applicant is proposing to blast at the far south end. Henry Phillips of Eric Mitchell and Associates stated they are showing the closest point to be 100 feet away from the property lines. Ms. Gott stated earlier it was mentioned that being within 350 feet blasting begins to cause problems. Mr. Tardif

explained if a well runs dry, they first drill the existing well deeper before drilling a new well.

Steve Naoum asked about flyrock. Mr. Tardif stated flyrock is caused by several various factors. These can include a geological anomaly, or an ejection of stemming. There is no calculation that determines distance flyrock can travel.

Steve Naoum asked if it were possible to use mats or to angle the blasts so any flyrock would travel away from the homes. Mr. Tardif stated that quarry blasts do not correlate to construction blasts. He stated with today's technology, it would be possible to steer the rock, depending on which shots are fired at what time.

Jonathan Wood asked if perchlorates would be used during blasting. Mr. Iacozzi responded that they would not be used.

Jonathan Wood stated it was mentioned that there would be 60 pounds of residue per blast. He asked what the residue was composed of. Mr. Tardif stated he would get this information for Mr. Wood.

Gretchen Gott asked what the impact on Town services would be since the fire department needs to oversee each blast. Mr. Tardif stated that the fire department observes the seismographs, and the reports they produce. Additionally, the fire department is there to make sure the conditions of the blasting permit are met.

Chairman Cantwell called for a short recess before continuing the meeting. The recess took place at 9:05 p.m.

The meeting was called back to order at 9:15 by Chairman Cantwell.

At this time, the Chairman allowed citizen presentations to be made to the Planning Board. The first presentation was given by Yun-Li Hou, a resident of 9 Ann Logan Circle. Mr. Hou gave a presentation on the impact of blasting on the Lamprey River. A copy of his presentation is attached to the original set of minutes on file with the Town Clerk's Office.

A second presentation was given by Meredith Small, the Organizing Director of a group known as the Toxics Action Center. Her presentation centered on pollution resulting from the quarrying operation. A copy of her presentation is attached to the original set of minutes on file with the Town Clerk's office.

Steve Naoum requested that Ms. Small provide references for her presentation.

Frank Bourque stated that there would not be an increase in trucking over what is currently allowed.

Jonathan Wood asked if the pre-blast surveys will be available to the public. Mr. Iacozzi responded that a no-cost duplicate can be made per request.

Jonathan Wood asked who will be keeping the pre-blast surveys, Thibeault or their engineers, etc. Mr. Iacozzi stated the engineering company who does the work would be holding on to the pre-blast surveys. Mr. Iacozzi also stated that copies of pre-blast surveys can be made available to the Town Office, if this is requested.

Frank Bourque asked the applicant to think about a security procedure that can be implemented to ensure the site is being checked and monitored.

MOTION: Frank Bourque made a motion to continue this hearing to October 11, 2007. Jonathan Wood seconded for discussion. DISCUSSION: Gretchen Gott reiterated that the public will have an opportunity to speak. VOTE: The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

Approval of Minutes

MOTION: Peter Buckingham made a motion to approve the minutes of 08/16/07 as presented. Gretchen Gott seconded. The motion passed with a vote of 5-0-1, with Frank Bourque abstaining.

MOTION: Frank Bourque made a motion to approve the minutes of 08/23/07 as amended. Jonathan Wood seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0.

Other Business

No other business was discussed.

Adjournment

MOTION: Jonathan Wood made a motion to adjourn. Frank Bourque seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 6-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Price
Planning Technician