
CONSERVATION COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES-October 15, 2018

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm

Members present: Betsy Hardwick, Pam Avery, George Sanderson, Jim St. Jean, Don Shuffleton, and Scot Heath.

Members of the public in attendance: None.

New Business: Meeting was called specifically to discuss a proposed land swap between the Town and Mountain Maintenance Corporation.

Proposal is for the Town to convey a portion of Map 7, Lot 3.1 to Hardwick (Hardwick property is used in part for septic systems of Mountain Maintenance Corp) in exchange for an easement on approximately 1.2 acres in a narrow strip of Map 7, Lot 5 (property owned by the condo association-common area) located at the top of Crotched Mountain. Said easement area would effectively connect two town owned parcels.

Thorough discussion followed. Significant observations and comments included:

-easement as proposed is of little to no value to the town, either in terms of utility (use) or monetary value.

-annexation of a portion of Map 7, Lot 5 in fee simple (not an easement) to one of the abutting town parcels would provide permanent connection of the town-owned parcels and control over the use of the area to be annexed.

It was concluded the Conservation Commission recommend the Town receive in fee simple a triangular shaped area of perhaps 7 or 8 acres of Map 7, Lot 5, located along the Bennington/Francestown town line and continuing straight to the northwest corner of said lot.

Motion made by Jim St. Jean and second by Pam Avery; that the offer by Mountain Maintenance Corp of an easement on 1.2 acres of Map 7, Lot 5 is of little to no use and value to the town, and instead recommend the town receive the fee simple interest in approximately 7 to 8 acres for annexation to an abutting town owned parcel. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

Motion to adjourn meeting by St. Jean, second by Heath, 8:12 pm.

Scot Heath, Secretary