**PLANNING BOARD MEETING- JUNE 28, 2023**

The NB Planning Board held their monthly meeting at the Police Department Conference room June 28, 2023 at 6pm. Chair Bill King called the meeting to order. In attendance were planning board members Bill King, John Turner, Brandon Avery , John Tripp and Clerk Kimberly Bent. Michelle Petraitis was unavailable for this meeting. Members from the public were Vaughn Schlegel, Denise & Simone Trela, Michelle Thayer, Anne Reynolds, Patricia Jackman, Kevin Rockwood, Ethan Melad and Erin Hebert. Green Gold representatives were James McMahon, Erin Smith and Ren Lynch.

Minutes from May 24 , 2023 meeting- Motion made by Brandon Avery to approve, seconded by John Turner, unanimously approved by members present.

Invoices – Last fiscal year payroll for Clerk Kimberly Bent

 Microsoft Word one year subscription for Clerk

Plot Plans – None at this time

The Gravel/Sand Pit General Town Bylaw was presented at Special June 16, 2023 Town Meeting and was voted and passed.

**MAIL:**

Town of Spencer – Decision to approve David Prouty High School renovations as presented.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Chair King received a call from Buck Anderson as he is interested in 7 Chase Road. He would like to build a 55+ year old project with four units on this property. Mr. Anderson did not attend as the owners have decided not to sell.

Valley View School engineers are working on solar plans to present to the Board for site plan review. Valley View School is hoping to have them done by September.

Brandon Avery had recommendations for the new Master Plan Review Committee. He recommended John Turner, Ann Hicks and Sheila Orsi. The Board all agreed these people would be very good appointments. They also agreed that the final list would be completed at the July meeting when the full Board is expected to be present. The recommended names will then be forwarded to the BOS.

Vaughn Schlegel expressed interest in becoming the alternate for the Planning Board. He wanted more information on the Master Plan Review Committee too. John Turner explained how the Master Plan Review Committee works, what they are responsible for and answered all his questions. Bill King asked Vaughn to write a letter expressing his interest and to come to next meeting so the Board can ask him any questions they may have before they submit his name to the BOS.

At 6:15pm, Chair King opened the discussion between Green Gold and the neighbors. He read two letters from abutters: Paul & Mary Soojian and Dennis and Simone Trela.

Mr. Trela had a few complaints about the pungent odor on certain days. The noise from playing basketball, swearing, unmaintained landscaping and traffic. Mr. Trela was very upset that DEP and CC Commission as they have done little to address his issues. Mr. Trela said he cannot enjoy his yard or sit in his home with the windows/doors open. Mr. Trela would like the plant shut down until the ventilation is fixed, wants the leaves picked up and wants the break area moved to the back of the building.

Kevin Rockwood agreed with Mr. Trela and wanted to add that the employees are speeding in and out of the parking lot.

Michelle Thayer added she has asked the Chief of Police to sit in her driveway to check speeders and to enforce the speed limit posted on the streets. She said Green Gold does talk to their employees when she calls and the speeding stops for a little while. She expressed that the smell has not been bad over the last few weeks but the traffic/speeding is a problem.

Anne Reynolds explained they had the same problem with last company at the building and there was a petition going around about the speeding and traffic.

James McMahon spoke on behalf of Green Gold. He stated they are in litigation with the ventilation system company, as it has not worked like it was promised. This is a class action suit, so many other cannabis factories are having the same problem. Green Gold has completed the new HVAC system on June 22, 2023. This new system is a triple bypass and was custom built for this facility. The CCC came out and found no issues, DEP first time they came out found no issues, second time they detected small order and will be coming for third time next week. Green Gold has passed all this information over to the BOH. Green Gold has spoken to the Police Chief about ticketing their employees to help curb the problem. They have signs posted and speak to their employees as they hire them, about how to behave in the neighborhood. Green Gold has dedicated a phone line and email address to report such problems as employees make/model/plate of cars, times they smell an order or any other problems. Green Gold did hire a new landscaping company as the last company was not up to par. Mr. McMahon also explained that they cannot move dumpsters or basketball/break area due to the way the facility is set up. The Maddox sign will remain as it deters folks from finding out and showing up to the cannabis plant. They have 24/7 guards on duty to keep the neighborhood and facility safe. This facility provides cannabis products to 40 percent of the state’s dispensaries. They will look into getting something to help make a sound barrier to lesson the noise during breaks to the neighborhood. The facility has no windows so employees want to get outside and enjoy themselves during breaks. The email address is community@greengold.group and phone number is 774-251-9888.

Ethan Melad, Chair BOH, said he has received the findings from the DEP and he was just made aware of this problem recently. Green Gold offered to have him take a tour of the facility at his convenience, he said he would. The BOH will continue to monitor this situation and look forward to the next report from the DEP.

Bill King asked that Green Gold provide a progress report to the Planning Board for the July 19, 2023 meeting.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

No old business.

John Turner made a motion to adjourn seconded by Brandon Avery, unanimously approved by all members present.

Next Meeting July 19, 2023 at 6pm.

Minutes consist of two pages.

Submitted by Kimberly Bent, Clerk