

NASHUA CITY PLANNING BOARD
September 22, 2005

A special meeting of the Nashua City Planning Board was held on Thursday, September 22, 2005 at 6:00PM in the Auditorium at City Hall.

Bette Lasky, Chair, conducted the meeting.

Members present were: Bette Lasky, Chair
 Ken Dufour, Vice Chair
 Mayor Streeter
 Ald. Richard Larose
 Steve Dookran, City Engineer
 William Slivinski
 Steve Farkas
 George Torosian

Also Present: Roger Houston, Planning Director
 Mike Yeomans, Deputy Planning Mgr.

Main Tape - Blank
Backup Tape - Very Poor Quality

Approval of Minutes

None

Communications

Mr. Houston reminded the Board of the Nashua Riverfront Promenade Design Charette.

OLD BUSINESS - SUBDIVISION PLAN

None

OLD BUSINESS - SITE PLAN

None

NEW BUSINESS - SUBDIVISION PLAN

None

NEW BUSINESS - SITE PLAN

None

Other Business

1. Referral from the Board of Alderman on proposal R-05-292, authorizing the acceptance of an easement for a public highway on land owned by the United States Postal Service at 10 North Southwood Drive; and authorizing the construction of a street on such land funded by a contribution from the United States Postal Service; and accepting such street, upon completion, as a Public Highway.

Ted Setas, Deputy Manager of Engineering made a presentation, but his comments were unintelligible. Once in a while a word or two could be understood, but not enough to make sense of what he was talking about. Could not identify who was speaking.

Mr. Slivinski asked that this gentleman come to the map to show what was being done.

This gentleman explained that the emergency access road comes up from the circle and goes almost directly into 15 North Southwood Drive. Then it makes a sharp right turn to Tinker Road and ... Becomes unintelligible. He said the proposed alignment of the road has been modified. They are going to basically dig out the whole portion ... becomes unintelligible. Something about curbing and 25' of pavement.

He said they have added a right turn shoulder off Tinker Road to allow people to slow down .. becomes unintelligible.

Mr. Slivinski asked if the work is funded by the Post Office and the City would be responsible for the maintenance of the road.

There was a response, but it could not be understood.

Mr. Farkas asked what work was being done on Tinker Road itself. He said there were problems with the grading and the sight distance. He asked if these issues were going to be addressed.

The man speaking indicated that they had looked at the sight distance, but basically the rest of what he said was unintelligible.

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Mr. Farkas asked if the Board was approving accepting the land and the money tonight or if they were approving the road to go forward today. He asked if the plan would come back and they would notice it so that people will have an opportunity to testify.

Mrs. Lasky said this is a recommendation. She said it will not come back to them.

Mr. Houston explained why it was before the Planning Board and a brief history.

Mr. Farkas said he knows the neighbors are in support. He asked about the office building in the back.

The gentleman who was making the presentation said they have spoken to them - rest of testimony is unintelligible.

Mr. Dufour said the last thing he read about this was the thousands of cars that will be utilizing this. He said he was kind of surprised that there was no light.

The reply was that the majority of movements are right and left turns out .. becomes unintelligible.

Mr. Dufour said whether this comes to the Planning Board or not, when the whole enterprise got approved, the Board approved the emergency access. When they tried opening it up, they couldn't do so without permission. They came back to the Board and asked for permission and it was denied until today.

He said he is puzzled that the Planning Board doesn't have to approve a plan. He said he understands that the Federal Government is immune from that, but when the Planning Board approved the whole design, the emergency access was designed by them as part of that whole development.

Mr. Houston explained that there was no site plan before the Planning Board for amendment and there is no subdivision.

Some comments were made, but could not understand them or who was speaking.

Ald. Larose said when he ran for office the people in the area really wanted the access road open and he told them that he would work towards getting it and that his goal was that they

have a road that would meet City standards with a sidewalk. There is a sidewalk on the east side of Tinker Road and there are a lot of young families. He felt that it made a lot of sense to have a sidewalk that connected to Tinker Road and to the sidewalks that are on North Southwood Drive.

He said that there are a lot of people who live in the upper ends of Monza Road and Deerhaven and some of the upper streets who were concerned that it was closed off and wanted to see it open. It wasn't just the new developments west of the Turnpike that were looking for it. It gives direct access to the Turnpike, north and south, and will help alleviate some of the traffic they have on Amherst Street and he thought it would help some of the traffic that is at the Junior High, especially in the morning when people are going to work and the students are going to school and the buses are on the road. He said he thought it was a good worthwhile project.

Mr. Farkas said the interpretation that the Federal Government is immune is correct while they maintain full control. If they were going to do this as their project it would be none of the City's business. Once they grant the easement, however, they are relinquishing some of their rights and thereby coming under the auspices of the Planning Board. He said the way the legislation is written it's being done in one fell swoop. He said he would have preferred to have seen it so that they would have approved the proposal and then look at the full plan and allow full public commentary. He said he thought it would have been more appropriate. As a minimum they are in a gray area whether or not this has to come to the Planning Board.

Mr. Dookran made some comments, but they were unintelligible.

Further comments were made, but they were unintelligible. Also, did not understand who the speaker was. Only comment understood was that time was of the essence.

MOTION by Mr. Dookran to send a favorable recommendation on R-05-292 to Board of Alderman.

SECONDED by Mr. Farkas.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Mayor Streeter requested that Southern New Hampshire Services be put on the next agenda as a discussion on a project on the Nashua Riverfront.

ADJOURN

Mrs. Lasky declared the meeting closed at 6:25PM.

Bette Lasky, Chair, Nashua City Planning Board

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(Taped Meeting)