

Gilsum Planning Board Meeting 5/2/23

Members present: Bill Whyte, Tom Julius, Heidi Bukoski, Sally Struble, Brian Bazarnicki & Vicki Ayer

Approximately 25 residents in attendance

Meeting held on site at 767 Rte. 10, Gordon Gravel

5/2/23 5:30 PM Bill Whyte calls the meeting to order then introduces Cody and Cooper Gordon, owners of gravel pit seeking a permit to expand. Brent Cole and Tanner Baylor of Granite Engineering and Louis Rumore from Capital Rock Blasting were available to answer site specific questions and an opportunity to tour the property.

Attendee's questions & answers:

Question- Where are you blasting?

Brent- On the northeast side; there will be two 50-foot ledges with the bench in between.

Question- How will you protect the wells?

Brent- DES requires the GWMP (Ground Water Management Plan) to test and monitor water from each well. Only two wells are in the 2000-foot radius and both wells are on W.S. Badger property.

Heather Hurd at 15 Spring St- She is concerned about her well and feels it's within the 2000-foot radius; for decades the Spring St. well runoff has been referred to as the "spring" by hundreds of people from multiple towns who rely on the runoff of her well for potable water.

Brent- We will review the records to make sure all the wells are included.

A group of Gilsum residents did a walk about on the Gordon property along Thompson Brook which flows into the Ashuelot River. They observed storm water runoff and free flowing pathways of silt filled water. Pictures were taken by residents and offered to share upon request.

Attendee- asked about the cleanup of the logging,

Cody Gordon- It was the loggers Round 2 who left it this way and We will need to get everything cleaned up before we can proceed.

6:40 PM a 20-minute recess was called to allow people to drive to 650 Route 10 Gilsum Library

The 7:00 PM meeting was resumed, and the public hearing was opened at the Gilsum Library 650 Rt 10

Cody Gordon handed out a water quality GWMP draft to the planning board members. The plan shows two wells are currently within the 2000-foot radius of the blasting plan.

The excavation plans were displayed as a presentation which was given by Brent. There are only two wells currently located within the 2000-foot radius according to NH DES OneStop. (A GIS program)

Chip Chapman- If you are using NH DES, the system will include only wells dug after 1979. On Spring Street and within the 2000' radius there are wells prior to 1979 that should be included in the GWMP.

Brent- We will look to confirm the number of wells and make necessary corrections to the GWMP.

Bill Whyte- Will blasting affect the wells?

Louie Rumore of Capital Rock Blasting- No, on rare occasions, damage typically only occurs when you are right next to the well casing. We routinely blast in close proximity of wells without issue.

Bill Whyte- Why a 2000-foot radius?

Louie Rumore- An overabundance of caution for possible runoff of nitrates. Nitrates are naturally occurring, with larger amounts being found in septic tanks and fertilizers than from the blasting.

Bill Whyte- Are residents notified before blasting occurs?

Brent- Louie Rumore can call abutters prior to blasting if they would like to be notified.

John Gielar- You have 85 blast holes listed on the plans, are you using them all?

Brent Cole- Blasting is on an irregular schedule.

Louie Rumore- 85 is just an example. The number of holes depends on need and quantity.

Kris Keith- Will the flow of water be disrupted?

Louie Rumore- It would have to be a perfect scenario for that to happen.

Brent Cole- Spring St wells are separated by the sand pit "bowl" which creates a stop point.

Kris Keith- What happens if on the off chance the water is compromised?

Cody Gordon- I will drill a new well for you.

Brent Cole- Capitol Rock Blasting's insurance covers this.

Sally Struble- Will that be put in writing?

No answer given

Brent Cole- Heather Hurd's well will be added to the GWMP.

Michael Baley- How strong will the blasts be?

Louie Rumore- The maximum allowable Air Blast is 134 db. We are required by regulations to follow Best Management Practices for Blasting.

Heather Hurd- Do you have any traffic concerns with fully loaded trucks entering Rte. 10 which is 55 mph and how many months do you operate?

Cody Gordon- We do not have any traffic concerns, our visibility in both directions is good. We operate year-round depending on the weather.

Chip Chapman- NH RSA 155-E:3 requires that the applicant provide to the Conservation Commission a copy of the application, this did not happen.

Brent Cole- I will research the statute and get back to you.

Michael Baley- Do you have to carry and present insurance certificates?

Bill Whyte- They have them, the PB can ask for copies. The Gordon Brothers would like a conditional permit.

Discussion of scheduling the next PB meeting to address conditional permit.

Bill Whyte- motions to continue this hearing to 6/8/23 at 7pm in the Gilsum Library.

Brian Bazarnicki- 2nds

VOTE ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES

Sally Struble- motions to close the public hearing and return to the planning board meeting.

Tom Julius- 2nds

VOTE ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES

8:05 pm Public Hearing closed; public meeting resumed

Sally Struble- Would like to see Cody Gordon's comment about fixing any wells that are damaged by their excavation in writing.

Discussion- The Planning Board will inspect periodically and can designate a nonmember to inspect.

Discussion- Recusals for 6/8/23 meeting. Abutters Bill Whyte & Heidi Bukoski will recuse themselves.

Brian Bazarnicki- motions to approve 4/25/23 minutes as written.

Bill Whyte- 2nds

VOTE ALL IN FAVOR, MOTION PASSES

Brian Bazarnicki- motions to close the meeting

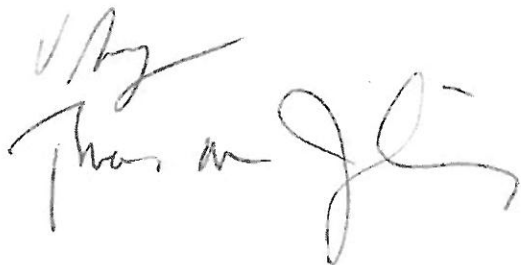
Bill Whyte- 2nds

All in favor, meeting closed 8:45pm.



Sally B. Struble 5/23/23

Heidi P Bukoski



5/23/23