

INITIALS

JB *MR* *DM* *BE* *MAA*

**LUNENBURG PLANNING BOARD
TOWN OF LUNENBURG**

Joanna L. Bilotta-Simeone, Chair
Nathan J. Lockwood, Vice-Chair
Damon McQuaid, Clk.
Kenneth Chenis, Mbr.



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AUG 13 2014

LUNENBURG TOWN
CLERK OFFICE

Minutes
July 22, 2014

Meeting Posted: Yes

Place: Town Hall, 17 Main Street, Lunenburg, MA

Time: 7:00 PM

Present: Joanna L. Bilotta-Simeone, Nathan J. Lockwood, Damon McQuaid

Absent: Kenneth Chenis

Also Present: Board of Selectmen members- T. Alonzo, P. Bertram, J. Toale, R. Ebersole, P. Luck

Joint Appointment with the Board of Selectmen, Planning Board Vacancy-

Chair J. Bilotta-Simeone opened the Planning Board portion of the joint session.

Board of Selectmen Chair T. Alonzo noted that at the Planning Board meeting of July 14, 2014 two candidates, Matthew Allison and Celeste McCain-Stober, were interviewed for the vacant Planning Board seat. Appointment will be the majority vote of the eight members present (Board of Selectmen and Planning Board) and the term until May Election 2015.

P. Luck opined M. Allison had a lot of Town support at the May 2014 Election with 43% of votes. She also cited his engineering background and opined that M. Allison was more qualified than C. McCain-Stober. P. Bertram noted how hard C. McCain-Stober worked on helping the Planning Board create the Town's Solar Bylaw, but that the engineering background of M. Allison was an asset to the Planning Board and a better candidate for the Board. R. Ebersole noted that even though M. Allison's opinions may differ from the Planning Board, his opinions may be in agreement with many of the townspeople. R. Ebersole was in favor of M. Allison due to his engineering experience and previous time on the Planning Board. J. Toale noted the support M. Allison received at the Town Election and was in favor of M. Allison.

N. Lockwood did not support M. Allison's nomination to the Planning Board. He noted M. Allison had made many contributions to the Planning Board, but that the way M. Allison pursued his "agenda" was not respectful for the conduct of a Planning Board member. N. Lockwood went on to state that M. Allison did not represent the Town in the proper light by his treatment of applicants, Town's legal counsel, the Board's reviewing engineers, and other Town staff. N. Lockwood supported C. McCain-Stober for the position. D. McQuaid was in agreement with N. Lockwood and supported C. McCain-Stober. He opined that M. Allison was quick to point out problems, but did not offer any solutions to the problems. J. Bilotta-Simeone supported C. McCain-Stober and went on to note that she felt this was a "political move". She noted that the Board of Selectmen were aware of M. Allison's behavior on the Planning Board over the past year and questioned the Select Board's opinion that M. Allison was the right candidate for the vacancy. She has spoken in the past with the Town Manager regarding his unprofessionalism. J. Bilotta-Simeone noted that K. Chenis was unable to attend this meeting, but was also in support of C. McCain-Stober.

T. Alonzo was in favor of M. Allison as being on the Planning Board is very intensive and time consuming; it takes a lot of time to "come up to speed" to be a contributing member on the Planning Board. He wants to get someone in who knows the planning process.

Select Board members noted they were aware of underlying issues in the way M. Allison communicated, but based on his interview, they hoped that he was looking to change his behavior.

Motion, R. Ebersole to appoint Matthew Allison to the vacancy of the Planning Board for the term to end at the next election, Second, P. Luck, Motion passed 5 – 3.

N. Lockwood noted the Selectmen's frequent references to M. Allison's engineering background and wanted the Board of Selectmen to be aware that the Planning Board does have technical advice in the matters they deal with through the peer review engineer.

Town Manager to inform M. Allison of his appointment.

ADJOURNMENT: 7:45 PM

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