St. George Planning Board Meeting 7PM at Town Office and via Zoom January 24, 2023 Minutes

The Planning Board meeting was called to order at 7:00pm. Planning Board Members present were Chair Anne Cox, Anne Cogger, Richard Moskowitz, and Michael B. Jordan. Also present were CEO Terry Brackett, and Mark Dierckes of Prock Marine Co.

Terry Brackett, and Mark Dierckes of Prock Marine Co.
Present via Zoom was Loreen Meyer.
Quorum:
A quorum was present.
Conflict of Interest:
There were no conflicts of interest.
Adjustments to Agenda:
There were no adjustments to the agenda.

Cogger moved to approve the January 10, 2023 Planning Board Meeting Minutes as corrected, seconded

by Moskowitz, and by unanimous vote, the minutes were approved.

Review of the Minutes:

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Building Permits:

Nathan Aldrich, Pier Superstructure Replacement, 222 Harts Neck Road, Map 216 – Lot 025 Prock Marine Co.

Chair Cox

Just briefly tell us about the project. We have the application.

Dierckes

To the best of my knowledge, I think we're talking about a 30-year-old dock. It's an upside-down truss. It has cables underneath it, that help it from bowing and it's a safety hazard, not only for navigation, but flight safety. Prock Marine previously met with Nathan's father. It's been ongoing for years and it's time to do it. It's a little vertical post with a cable underneath and what that does is cables tension, which causes that post to push up.

Chair Cox

Will that be removed?

Dierckes

Correct. We'll use bigger beams, glue laminated.

Chair Cox

So other than that change, this is just pure replacement?

Dierckes

There can be some improvements to the piers, the piers that are not in the top courses or anything that we can do while we're there but really the goal is to replace the superstructure.

Chair Cox

It's not changing the dimension?

Dierckes

Correct.

Dierckes

It is the same footprint and same impact to the intertidal.

Jordan

Where are you going to do this from, the barge or from the land?

Dierckes

From the barge. We'll have everything built. I expect we'll be on site for less than two weeks. We'll bring it by barge and setup by barge.

Jordan

Nothing is happening to trees or vegetation or grass?

Dierckes

Correct. The only thing on land will be a pickup truck.

Moskowitz

If there are any problems with the piers, would that change the scope of the work?

Dierckes

No. If there's a broken block or something like that, we'll have some extra blocks with us, and it would just be a matter of pulling a block out and putting a block in.

Chair Cox

All right. We have your DEP permit. Terry, are there any questions you see with this?

Terry Brackett

No. you're probably going to have another project similar to this in the very near future. The pier next door, which is very similar to this, had storm damage.

On a motion by Jordan, seconded by Cogger, the Board found, by a unanimous vote, that the application was complete.

Chair Cox

Our habit with piers has been to have a public hearing. This is purely a replacement, with no changes so it doesn't feel like we need to have a public hearing to me. Also, there is no impact from vegetation removal.

Cogger

It seems like it is a safety issue.

Terry Brackett

Did you have any conversation with the Army Corps?

Jordan

No. Just with Justin Dore.

Chair Cox

Is that a problem, Terry?

Terry Brackett

Well, normally, the Army Corps will write a letter saying they don't have jurisdiction or that it doesn't affect navigation. I see it as a common courtesy to ask them, and they have not done that, but I don't see any issues.

Chair Cox

It's not changing, the length of the ramp, or the length of the float.

Dierckes

No change that would affect navigation.

Chair Cox

This is the first replacement I've done. Do we need to go through the list of requirements for piers?

Jordan

I don't think so.

On a motion by Jordan, seconded by Moskowitz, the Board unanimously approved the application as it is purely replacing what has been there, is making it safer, will be done from a barge, removes no vegetation and there is no change to the footprint.

Dierckes

Terry, will I hear back from you?

Terry Brackett

We will be getting a permit out for you.

Dierckes

Thanks for your time. I appreciate it.

Adjourn

On a motion by Jordan, seconded by Moskowitz, the Board decided by a unanimous vote to adjourn the meeting and at 7:20p.m. the meeting was adjourned.

The Board then conducted a brief workshop on the proposed Land Use Ordinance.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy Taylor Recording Secretary Town of St. George, Maine