

TOWN OF LUNENBURG

Office of the Planning Board

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Adam R. Burney
Land Use Director

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Minutes
Public Hearing
780 Northfield Road
March 14, 2022

Meeting Posted: Yes
Place: Town Hall, 17 Main Street, Lunenburg, MA
Time: 7:03 p.m.

Present: Tanner Cole, Matthew Allison, Adam Burney

Paula Bertram and Erik Torgersen participated remotely under the Act relative to extending certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the state of emergency.

Absent: Matthew Brenner

The Hearing was to hear and review a request under M.G.L. Ch. 40, Section 15C, Scenic Road Designations and under M.G.L. Ch. 87, Section 3, Cutting of Public Shade Trees to remove trees and a 50 foot section of stone wall for a new driveway at 780 Northfield Road (Map 038, Parcel 0017), Lunenburg, MA. Owner/applicants were James and Allison Lattanzi, 331 Marshall Road, Fitchburg, MA 01420.

J. Lattanzi noted he and his wife owned Hollis Hills Farms in Fitchburg, a short distance from the Lunenburg line. 780 Northfield Road was the site of Pierce's Christmas Tree Farm property, which J. Lattanzi had purchased. He would be operating both businesses which required significant travel of farm equipment between the two locations. He had concerns with the intersection of Northfield Road and Chase Road as it was historically dangerous. He felt that dealing with that intersection posed high risk to his equipment, himself and his staff. If he was allowed the new farm access road, he could avoid that intersection.

He would remove four trees that were in the Town's easement, and open up that section of stone wall to enter the property.

The Conservation Administrator had noted to A. Burney that was considered agricultural land under normal improvement and therefore was exempt from conservation review. J. Lattanzi noted he had also spoken with the Tree Warden, who noted he had no issues with the tree removal. T. Cole opined that a 50 foot wide drive was rather excessive. J. Lattanzi responded that the drive itself would not be 50 feet wide, only the road opening. This would accommodate the turning of his farm equipment.

Board members decided to schedule a site visit to get a better understanding as to location of proposed drive and trees being removed. The visit was scheduled for Monday March 21st, 5:00 p.m.

M. Allison made Motion to continue the hearing to March 28, 2022, 6:05 p.m., P Bertram Seconded, Roll Call Vote- P. Bertram, aye; E. Torgersen, aye; M. Allison, aye; T. Cole, aye. Passed unanimously.

Hearing recessed at 7:29 p.m.

Documents used at meeting:
Scenic Road Application