

CITY OF LACONIA
REGULAR PLANNING BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, [February] [3rd], [2026] - 6:30 PM
City Hall - Armand A. Bolduc Council Chamber
Draft Minutes

2/3/2026 - Minutes

1. CALL TO ORDER

C. St. Clair called the meeting to order at 6:31PM

2. MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Chair Charlie St. Clair, Gail Ober, Dave Ouellette, Rich MacNeill, Mike Conant, Michael DellaVecchia, Gary Dionne, Jacob Roy, and Amy Lovisek.

3. RECORDING SECRETARY

Planner Technician Scott Pelchat.

4. CITY STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

Planning Director Robert Mora and Assistant Planning Director Tyler Carmichael.

5. ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The prior meeting minutes were discussed and voted on this was done in two parts as two sets of minutes were to be reviewed.

5.1. Planning Board

G. Ober motions to accept the minutes from the December Planning Board, seconded by M. Conant.

M. Conant (yes) A. Lovisek (Yes), R. MacNeill (Yes), M. DellaVecchia (Yes), G. Dionne (Yes), D. Ouellette (Abstained) and G. Ober (Abstained). J. Roy was not seated as a voting member. The Board voted 5-0

5.2. Planning Board

D. Ouellette motions to approve the minutes from the January Planning Board Meeting, seconded by G. Dionne.

D. Ouellette (yes), G. Dionne (yes), A. Lovisek (Yes), M. DellaVecchia (yes), M. Conant (yes), R. MacNeill (yes) G. Ober (yes) J. Roy not seated as a voting member. the Board Voted 7-0 to approve.

6. CONTINUED APPLICATIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR FORMAL CONSIDERATION

6.1. PB2026-021 604 Endicott St N (128-252-3.1)

Gail Ober recused herself from the hearing for this application.

Chair C. St. Clair brought forward application PB2026-021 for 604 Endicott St N, seeking an amendment to the site plan to increase the stormwater detention pond. C. St. Clair inquired with the staff whether stormwater was the reason for this discussion. R. Mora responded that the applicant had submitted a revised drainage analysis dated March 21, 2023, and revised in 2025, indicating a net decrease in flow rates from pre-development to post-development. This analysis was conducted following site plan regulations for the 24-hour storm event for the 2, 25, and 50-year storms. Mora concluded that according to the analysis the proposed development would not have any adverse effects downstream regarding stormwater flow rates or quality.

Laconia's legal counsel, Laura Spector-Morgan, noted that it might be helpful for the board to explain why it is only considering the drainage aspect of this application. C. St. Clair prompted the legal counsel to clarify this point. L. Spector-Morgan explained, "This is because when this matter originally went to the Superior Court, the only reason the court remanded your decision was that it did not understand how you reached your conclusion on the drainage issue. Although the campground appealed that decision to the Supreme Court on various grounds, the currently pending decision only pertains to drainage. Mediation was held at the Supreme Court, and the issues addressed in the settlement agreement are solely related to drainage."

She continued, "It is appropriate for this board to limit its analysis of this application to drainage, especially since the only changes made to the plan relate to drainage. Therefore, it makes sense to focus your review on these changes. I know Attorney Tierney wanted to explain why you should consider other aspects and has submitted letters advocating for this. However, I thought it might be beneficial for you to clarify to the public and to Attorney Tierney why you are not considering those other factors."

C. St. Clair expressed the Board's concern that drainage was the only issue to be handled. L. Spector-Morgan confirmed, "Yes, drainage is the topic of discussion." St. Clair then stated that a public hearing could not be held that evening because it had not been properly posted. Legal Counsel advised that if the Board were to reopen a public hearing, it should remain focused on the topic of drainage, as that was the sole reason for the proposed changes.

Attorney Michael Tierney attempted to approach the podium to speak but was informed by St. Clair that no public comments were allowed. Tierney responded, "Respectfully, since you took testimony from the City Attorney, I feel I have the right to respond." St. Clair reminded the attorney of the rules, to which Tierney asserted that he believed it was an error not to allow him to speak. C. St. Clair asked the board if any discussion Tyler Carmichael read into the minutes the staff report

Findings of Fact

1. The application is complete and consistent with State and City land use regulations.
2. The original site plan application was accepted as complete and conditionally approved by the Planning Board at its May 3, 2023 meeting.
3. Pine Hollow Campground appealed the Planning Board's decision to the Belknap Superior Court. The Court issued its ruling on November 20, 2023 which affirmed the Board's decision regarding application acceptance, parking, and traffic but remanded it back to the Board to clarify its findings regarding stormwater runoff mitigation.
4. Following further appeal to the New Hampshire Supreme Court, a mediated settlement agreement was executed between Pine Hollow Campground, the Applicant, and the City on March 19, 2024. The Applicant submitted this site plan amendment in accordance with that agreement.
5. The application, site plan, and stormwater management analysis report were reviewed by the Technical Review Committee (TRC) at its November 18, 2025 meeting. The TRC had no concerns regarding the application, amended plan, and stormwater management analysis report as it shows a net decrease from pre-development flow to post-development flow.
6. In accordance with the Superior Court's ruling and the mediated settlement agreement, the

Planning Board is only invoking its jurisdiction to review the amended site plan for the changes to the detention pond.

Staff Recommendation – Application Acceptance and Approval

The Planning Department recommends the Planning Board accept the application as complete and hold a public hearing on the application. After the public hearing has concluded, the Department recommends the Board discuss and vote to approve the application with the recommended conditions of approval.

1. **Settlement Agreement.** The applicant must adhere to the requirements and conditions outlined in the Pine Hollow and Tiki Plaza LLC Settlement Agreement dated March 19, 2024.

2. **Third-Party Inspection.** The Department of Public Works shall oversee a third-party inspection of the detention pond at the applicant's expense to confirm construction was completed in accordance with the approved plans prior to the issuance of a certificate of occupancy.

3. **Prior Conditions.** All conditions of the previous Planning Board approval which are not altered by this approval remain in effect.

4. **Completion Date.** The project and all associated conditions must be completed by no later than November 3, 2032. If all conditions are not met, nor any extension application filed with the Laconia Planning Department, by the completion date, this approval is null and void.

A. Lovisek motioned to approve PB2026-021 604 Endicott St N to amend the previous site plan approval to increase the size and capacity of the stormwater detention pond. The motion was seconded by M. DellaVecchia.

A. Lovisek (yes), M. DellaVecchia (yes), D. Ouellette (yes), R. MacNeill (yes) M. Conant (yes), G. Dionne (yes), and J. Roy (yes). the Board voted 7-0. to approve.

7. CONCEPTUAL REVIEW AND PRESENTATIONS

7.1. Lakes Region Planning Commission Presentation

Shauna Saunders delivered a presentation on the Lakes Region Planning Commission and the services it provides. Currently, the City has three positions for commissioners. The current commissioners are T. Carmichael and R. MacNeill. The commission focuses on areas such as transportation planning and funding, brownfields assessment, grant funding and writing, as well as culvert and road reviews. There are 31 member towns participating in the commission. Additionally, there is a 10-year transportation plan. S. Saunders also discussed the hazardous waste day activities that take place within the city and the region. Membership pricing and fees were also addressed.

The board posed several questions regarding the presentation.

C. St. Clair requested assistance with road maintenance and hazardous waste removal. He asked which member of the group is the smallest. S. Saunders stated that Hill is the smallest member. When C. St. Clair inquired if any members had dropped out, S. Saunders responded that Alton had dropped out but has since returned.

G. Dionne asked whether the group provides help with recycling. S. Saunders confirmed that they assist in securing financing for recyclable items.

G. Ober questioned whether the notice for hazardous waste disposal is published in a private newspaper. S. Saunders replied, "I believe we do." G. Ober also raised the topic of boat wrap recycling and inquired about any benefits for the State School Project. Staff, along with S. Saunders, discussed environmental studies in relation to this topic.

R. MacNeill mentioned that many resources from the group are not utilized by larger communities like his, since they have their own staff.

D. Ouellette asked about the membership structure and whether it is divided into dues. S. Saunders explained that the dues are based on population and assessed value, totaling \$20,000 annually.

A. Lovisek asked about the grant writing process. S. Saunders clarified that grant requests are evaluated based on need, and the LRPC determines what will be provided.

R. Mora noted that the LRPC offers many great opportunities, emphasizing that Hazardous Waste Day is particularly important since the area is surrounded by wetlands and sensitive environments.

M. Conant shared that he has made use of the hazardous waste collection day, held at the DPW building, which is well attended.

S. Saunders clarified that there is an additional cost for hazardous waste disposal beyond the \$20,000 annual dues.

7.2. PB2026-029; 5 Hilliard Road; Conceptual Review

Michael Bousaleh presented the concept for 5 Hilliard Rd. He summarized the planned construction of a five-story, 24-unit condominium building, which will include an elevator and outdoor parking for 26 vehicles.

Board Discussion with Applicant

C. St. Clair expressed concerns regarding the lot size, buffer size, tree ownership, and potential runoff. He suggested that this plan be shared with the neighbors and raised concerns about the placement on the lot and road access. He vocalized public concerns that had been referred to him.

G. Dionne discussed the location of the structure and parking lot, as well as parking calculations. He highlighted current zoning values in relation to the requested performance zoning, suggesting 2 to 3 stories for the building and a possible reduction in the unit count.

G. Ober inquired whether there is water and sewer service on Endicott, to which the answer was yes.

R. MacNeill asked about snow storage and noted that plantings would be used as a buffer and for dumpster placement. He also raised questions regarding staff regulations on elevators, which were deferred to the Code department for clarification. Additionally, he questioned whether a generator would be needed for this lot and addressed concerns about parking for residents with multiple vehicles. He concurred with Amy's viewpoint regarding a maximum height of three stories.

D. Ouellette agreed with Amy's concerns about the lot.

A. Lovisek was worried about the height and density of the planned units, stating it felt excessive for such a small area. She suggested a maximum height of three stories and inquired whether the development would be for workforce housing, to which the answer was no.

R. Mora proposed that the board might offer suggestions to the applicant on how to address some of the questions and feedback provided. R. Mora advised that a traffic study would be necessary for this development.

Missing

7.3. PB2026-030; 59 Doe Avenue; Conceptual Review

Dari Sassan and Kevin Lacasse gave the conceptual presentation for 59 Doe Ave. To allow for performance zoning and construct a 40 unit building on the property at 59 Doe Ave. Dari stated it was a 2.9 acre site in the CR district. to allow for two twenty unit buildings on site. Dari referenced the provided siteplans he has provided to the planning board. Dari referenced how the structural layout would be on the lot itself. Kevin Lacasse mentioned drive under parking with single floor living and to also have an elevator.

K. Lacasse mentioned ease of living as the design wheel behind this conceptual 83 spots were allowed for parking and K. Lacasse stated we provide more than less parking. K. Lacasse mentioned a study may give you the results you are looking for.

The Board asked these questions regarding the presentation.

C. St. Clair. What is the total height? 60 feet or less. My concern is traffic what can be done? the team referenced other options for egress. C. St. Clair referenced this will change the neighborhood. C. St. Clair inquired over total height. K. Lacasse advised of average height. C. St. Clair inquired about pervious area and it was found to be 58% where 60% is needed. C. St. Clair runoff is still a problem. How old is the house? old so it will need review regarding the age. C. St. Clair make room for sidewalks.

G. Dionne. Would these be rentals or would they be up for sale? K. Lacasse. for sale. Liked the underground parking aspect. Not the height overall. Where would snow storage be? D. Sassan Will be in future plans. Access easement was asked about.

G. Ober. Is this the only thing on Doe Ave? answer no. lot size ? answer 2.8 acres. Inquired regarding easement on the plan not opposed to the plan. But would like to see less surface parking. Any room for a retention pond? Yes.

R. MacNeill. Have you done something in the past with this design prior to this? the answer was no.

A. Lovisek. They should keep the parking they have opposed to G. Ober comment.

M. Conant design the traffic flow to egress at the top side over the lower egress to allow for better results. K. Lacasse spoke to M. Conant regarding and roadwork may need to be added as well. Reminds me of the Center Harbor Inn and i find that very appealing.

J. Roy wants the underground parking to remain.

R. Mora mentioned an exaction to be possibly used to allow for a road study.

See video for full Narration.

8. NEW APPLICATIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR FORMAL CONSIDERATION

8.1. Subdivision Regulations Amendment: Site Security and Third-Party Review

Tyler Carmichael spoke regarding this site plan regulation T. Carmichael referenced the older outdated regs have been updated by the Planning Department. T. Carmichael referred to this as coming before you know to allow for a fix to be made regarding Escrow, site security and third-party review. This will

bring both regs in line with each other and they will function more complementary to each other. T. Carmichael mentioned the new regulations have been reviewed by legal as well. Escrows and performance bonds referenced as well. R. Mora gave a review of what he saw that also led to this review and ultimate creation of the two regulation rewrites. Escrow dispersion was discussed as well as timelines to allow for this. R. Mora discussed how painstaking the return process is now. C. St Clair opened to public comment at 8:30PM and with no comment it was closed at 8:30 PM

G. Ober motioned to accept the regulation as written this was seconded by R. MacNeill and was this was voted unanimously 8 yes votes to 0.

8.2. Site Plan Review Regulations Amendment; Site Security and Third-Party Review

C. St .Clair inquired why was the money not utilized and it was stated money for needs to be used for the subject project and it is not a slush fund for other items. R. Mora this was submitted to allow for these fixes to take place. And the labor hours to go into this current process is very time consuming. G Ober can you explain what is the difference between site plan and zoning ordinance to the public who may not understand it. R. Mora not every board can pass a regulation This Board (Planning Board) this board can govern its own regulations of how development is to occur. That's given to them by state law. An ordinance is a law that is adopted by your legislative body or City Council and that's a law that must be followed unless its deviated from. If it is from this board a waiver may occur. T. Carmichael stated min requirements over regulations which may effect design over use. R. Mora used the example this is how we want the lots to look.

D. Ouellette asked how long they are to be held. 6 years was the answer. C. St Clair opened to public comment at 8:31 PM and with no public comment it was closed at 8:31.5 PM. A. Lovisek made the motion to accept the regulations as written and it was seconded G. Dionne and was voted 8 votes yes and 0 votes no.

9. PLANNING DEPARTMENT MONTHLY REPORT

9.1. PLANNING DEPARTMENT REPORT

R. Mora presented the planning department staff report. Citing current staffing levels within the department. RFP is out for the bandstand, rewrites on development standards. R. Mora referenced back to a prior meeting where a storm water manual was discussed the NH stormwater manual dated 2008 and it was found the updated 2025 is the more current and our current regs have no requirement at this time. This will not be a quick process. The Master plan steering committee as well as the historic district committee was mentioned as well. G. Ober can LRPC help you with your rewrites. R.Mora no.

10. LIAISON REPORTS

10.1. CITY COUNCIL

N/A

10.2. LAKES REGION PLANNING COMMISSION

R. MacNeill My feeling it does not bring value and our staff handles most if not all and it does not bring value. Questions arose for when we pay each year. Staff answered as when the dues are scheduled to be paid on July 1st. D. Ouellette could this benefit us if we stay to be used for the state school property. T. Carmichael reminded the board the Haz waste is on top of the 20K. R MacNeill what happens if they are unavailable to help. R. Mora defined the pros and cons of what could be used to help with this development. See video for full narration.

10.3. CONSERVATION COMMISSION

R. Mora broke down finances used by conservation Commission regarding Milfoil remediation and Dash harvesting. The current milfoil grant is still in the pipeline to City Council.

10.4. HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMISSION

C. St. Clair asked who appoints this position it was found to be the mayor that appoints and C. St Clair stated to M. Conant please ask the mayor to appoint someone. R. Mora gave some timelines that may effect this Commission as it moves forward.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00PM

DRAFT