

Town of Danby
Select Board Hearing Meeting Minutes
August 08, 2024
Town Office, Danby, VT 7:00pm
<https://www.danbyvt.org/government-information>
ZOOM MEETING ID: 813-2851-1750

Public Present – D. Stoddard, M. Bushee, K. Corey, T. Jesmonth, B. Hodgin, R. Millard, M. Macheski, M. McDonough, R. Porter, T. Porter, E. Martin, B. Martin, S. Crosby, J. Millard, K. Millard, D. Tifft, C. Tifft, C. Crandall, Z. Fuller, S. Hinkel, T. Katz, L Dever, Renata Aylward, W. Richardson, C. Moran, S. Corey, T. Parker, C. Hardaway, B. Corey Jr., M Lees, A. Stoehr, I. Halligan, S. Wilde, A. Wilde, H. Blucher,

Virtual Present – D. White, A. Smith, G. Derr, B. Thompson, S. White, C. Raymond, Crumley, D. R. White, C. Hardaway, R. & V. Griffith, E. & A. Stoehr

- Call to order at 6:06pm
- Roll Call
 - Abbott, Haines, Bender – present
 - Fuller – present (not as board member)
 - Powers - Absent
- Procedure for Remote Access Attendance Statement
 - Brad Bender
- Public Comment
 - Lauren Dever
 - Attended Planning Commission Hearing
 - Didn't feel concerns were heard or listened to
 - Sarah Wilde
 - Wondering what the pros are for the change
 - Tom Fuller
 - Tax revenue
 - 30 million generated in payroll
 - Potential increase in jobs
 - Continue support and discount to the town for materials
 - Barbara Martin
 - Wondering about new job creation
 - Air quality in the village
 - Doesn't understand what the benefit to the village is
 - Tom Fuller –
 - Would not have to truck in additional aggregate
 - Regardless the asphalt, crushing plant operations would continue
 - Ingrid Halligan
 - has experienced 14 years of blasting and vibrations
 - Danby has very high taxes and doesn't feel it reflected in what is around her home
 - Constant disruption from truck traffic
 - Chris Hardaway
 - Questioning how the property could generate 30 million in payroll
 - Jenn Millard
 - Concerns about taxes
 - Will grieve hers
 - Concerns about house and property values dropping if the operation expands
 - Tricia Katz
 - Wasn't aware the operation was there when home was purchased

- Has looked at ariel views of the operation and doesn't like how is makes the town look
 - Concerned about quality of life with having an operation like this so close to home and the village
 - Concerned about homes on the market not selling, and loosing value
- Renata Aylward
 - Loves how neighborly the town is, everyone helps each other out
 - Kill the village kill the town
 - Doesn't come across as a neighboring expansion
- Keith Millard
 - Wondering where the seismographs are placed and who places them
 - Halligan, Porter, and Bender
 - Maine Drilling & Blasting does all of it
 - Is it possible to get more than just a triangulation
 - Can more seismographs be place
- Dana Tifft
 - Has never come to complain to Fuller
 - Is concerned about property values
 - Concerned about damage to home and property from blasting
- Sue Crosby
 - Concerned about air quality
 - Already experiences issues with current operation
 - Smells and dust
- Hinkle
 - Wondering what happens to operation if change isn't approved
 - There is about 15 years left of material in current operation
 - Blasting would continue
 - In new spot operations would occur for 30 years and then be reclaimed
 - The expansion would allow for more efficient operation and extraction of material
 - Wouldn't have to truck in material for operations
 - If it doesn't expand the plants would continue operating regardless
- Annette Smith
 - Would like evidence to back up the numbers stated earlier about revenue regarding payroll, general revenue, and benefit to the town
 - Concerned about it being within a potential ¼ mile buffer that could be part of the village designation
 - Commented about the history and development of the town
 - Comes across that a business is being put ahead of the interest of the residents of the town.
- Tary Jesmonth
 - Has lived on Easy Street since '86
 - Spoke with Fuller about concerns a few years ago
 - Offered to have a seismograph on his property
 - Stated part of his ceiling fell in from a blast, but didn't mention it when it happened
 - Concerned about additional access to the operation if it expands
 - Who is responsible if damage occurs from a blast
 - Is Maine Drilling & Blasting insured and liable
- Bob Millard
 - Has a retaining wall that is 50 years old
 - Has never shifted until recently

- **Blasting shakes his house**
- **Kim Corey**
 - **Confirming that Maine Drilling & Blasting sets the seismograph**
 - **Is a different company available to set them? The same company who is paid by Fuller who is doing the blasting isn't' also setting them**
 - **Hasn't shared issues in the past, was hoping it would just eventually end**
 - **Doesn't feel Fuller follows through when an issue is brought up**
 - **The industrial operation in town is a nuisance to the people**
 - **Doesn't want it to expand**
- **Kieth Millard**
 - **Asked if Fuller ever went and talked to neighbors after blasting to hear their experience**
 - **Should communicate and reach out instead of having issues brought forth**
 - **Wondering about subcontractors for seismograph placements**
- **Tricia Katz**
 - **Was very impressed with the sense of community when she moved here**
 - **Asking that the community is listened to when expressing their concerns**
- **Ingrid Halligan**
 - **It is difficult to prove damage from blasting**
 - **Must present to insurance with direct evidence**
 - **It is costly to pursue**
- **Dana Tifft**
 - **Willing to have a seismograph placed in his yard**
 - **Asked how spots were selected**
- **Annette Smith**
 - **Has experience with issues that come from blasting**
 - **Nearly impossible to prove damage from blasting**
 - **Was involved with the previous Act 250 for Fuller**
 - **Was willing to work with experts to test air quality**
 - **There are ways to make quarries good neighbors**
 - **Community based involvement can help with working with experts to identify things that can be improved to lessen the impacts of an operation**
- **Micheal Lees**
 - **There is a lack of information to make an informed decision on the change**
- **Basil Corey**
 - **Concerned about the smells from the plant, smells terrible**
- **Cindy Crandall**
 - **Concerned about smells, especially of propane**
 - **Concerned with the recent blasting**
- **Vedanta Griffith**
 - **Concerned about Community Safety**
 - **Recalls when that was brought up when Cannabis Dispensaries were first mentioned**
 - **Wondering why community safety is not being mentioned now**
 - **Mentioned no zoning in Danby**
 - **Why is the town plan being outdated being brought up now**
 - **Concerns about the effect on village designation**
 - **Wondering who is responsible for damages that occur from the operation**
- **Tracy Porter**
 - **Agrees with all the statements that have been made**
 - **First noticed a crack in living room in 2010**
 - **Communicated with Fuller about it and what can be done**

- Was offered money for repairs and told it wouldn't happen again
 - Has had other damages to house from blasting
 - Keeps records when blasting occurs and inspects for other damages
 - Has pictures and videos from blasting
- Hearing ended at 7:30pm

Respectfully Submitted by:

Drea Stoddard

Minute Taker