

**TOWN OF CHATHAM, ZONING IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF THE MAY 1, 2013 MEETING**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 pm. Present were: Henry Swartz, Jean Rhode, Donna Staron, Don Hegeman, Dave Everett, Aven Kerr, Jeff Lick and Tal Rapplelea.

On a motion by Donna Staron, seconded by Aven Kerr the minutes of the April 17, 2013 meeting were approved. The Committee welcomed newly appointed member Jeff Lick.

The Committee resumed its review of the Chatham Agricultural Protection Plan and the Forestry component therein. Donna Staron provided the Committee with Forestry/Timbering information and research obtained from and compiled by the NY Planning Federation, NYSDEC and the Empire Forest Products Association. The Committee reviewed those materials in depth and discussed the pros and cons of the various types of information.

Dave Everett stated that the primary impacts concerning forestry and timbering are impacts to the town's roads, erosion, and clear-cutting. The clean-up and prevention of damage to and repair of roads, curb cuts, bonding and sight distances at access areas should be examined. The Town Highway Superintendent will be a good resource. The Committee also discussed the differences between a local law and an ordinance and other tools at its disposal which might assist in the prevention or mitigation of impacts.

Don Hegeman acknowledged that there is much information regarding forestry, but we should also remember to look at clear-cutting. Dave Everett suggested that the Town could address all the impacts in design and approval standards, including additional regulation for work on steep slopes without being overly burdensome. Jeff Lick agreed and suggested that the Committee distinguish between Timbering and Land Clearing (clear-cutting), especially on ridgelines and steep slopes. Additionally, whatever approach is taken, the issue of processing the timber cut on-site must also be addressed. The Committee requested that Tal Rapplelea obtain copies of local laws, etc. from other municipalities to see how this issue is handled elsewhere.

Next, the Committee began a review of the definition of Commercial Horse Facility and the manner in which regulations could differentiate or draw the line between a personal-use horse barn/stable and a commercial facility since many personal-use barns often rent out stalls to boarders.

The also agreed to resume this conversation at the next meeting, with a discussion of the definition of Farm Operations and Agricultural Uses and §180-47 regarding farming/horse buildings, Height Regulations in §180-26.

On a motion by Henry Swartz, seconded by Aven Kerr, the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 15, 2013 at 6:30 pm at the Chatham Town Hall.