

ATKINSON ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT

19 Academy Avenue

Atkinson, New Hampshire 03811

Workshop Meeting Town Hall

Thursday July 7, 2022

ZBA Members Present

Glenn Saba, Chair

Bob Connors, Vice Chair

Kevin Wade

Scott Sullivan

Others Present

Chief Brian Murray, AFD

Dave Holigan, AFD Fire Inspector

Sue Killam, Planning Board Chair

Brian Boyle, Building Inspector

Sue Coppeta, Planning & Zoning Admin

Dean Killam,

Workshop 6:30 PM

This workshop session was an informal discussion between the Fire Chief and the ZBA to discuss each other's roles and responsibilities with regard to ZBA applications in general.

Chief Murray provided a detailed powerpoint presentation (attached) which highlighted his concerns that he would like the ZBA to consider when evaluating variance applications.

Chief Murray agreed that a representative from the Fire Department (likely himself or Dave Holigan) would attend ZBA meetings in order to provide any relevant input that the ZBA should consider when evaluating application criteria.

The group had a general discussion about seasonal conversions, variances and expansions of non-conforming uses. The ZBA explained their procedures for evaluating applications and the Fire Chief outlined his concerns. Chief Murray acknowledged that the board considers "Life Safety" however he would like the board to be more aware of "fire spread" concerns, especially in more densely populated areas of town.

The ZBA asked Chief Murray to provide some language to add to a ZBA decision, if that decision was predicated on input from the Fire Chief.

The group discussed areas of Atkinson' Zoning ordinance (nonconforming uses, building heights, and stories) where definitions were lacking and determine that a review of building code and fire code language would be done and documented in order to make these definition more clear. The Planning Board Chair agreed to review this documentation to determine if any zoning updates should also be proposed for next March's town meeting.

The group discussed the general need for requiring building permit applications and Zoning Board applications to be supported by better documentation.

The workshop ended at 8:15 pm.