

Village of Liverpool Planning Board
Monday January 27, 2020
7:00 PM

Present: Joseph Ostuni, Chairman Jim Rosier
John Eallonardo Dennis Hebert
Peter Osborne - absent Bill Reagan, Codes Officer
Richard Andino - Attorney Sandra Callahan - Planning Board Secretary

Call to Order

Chairman Ostuni called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Motion was made by Jim Rosier, seconded by John Eallonardo, to approve the minutes from October 28, 2019. Motion Passed.

New Business

Syracuse Studios – Jeremy Garelick, Paul Stacey, Sam Avery, Mollie DeBartolo

There are several issues at the school that need to be addressed. Jeremy said they are working hard to get things done per the site plan.

Bill Reagan had a list of 5 items that needed to be addressed:

- 1 – Large commercial trucks are regularly parking on the property. The site is not approved to have trucks parked over night or for extended periods of time. Trucks are coming and going between the hours of 6 a.m. and after midnight
 - a. The approved special permit states:
“All truck deliveries and trash removal shall be restricted to the hours of 8 a.m. to 7 p.m.”
 - b. There are no provisions for trucks to be regularly parked on the property.

Jeremy said the complaint came from the hair and makeup trucks and when the filming was finished, they were gone. They would like to do as much as possible inside the building, off-site shooting required the trucks to be at the school.

For future projects the trucks would be loaded and moved to the off-site. They would (with permission) park the trucks overnight on the property but they wouldn't be idling.

2 – Diesel generators operating outdoors for hours at a time generating noise and fumes. This activity was not approved.

Paul said they are working to get electrical quotes to put a panel box outside of the building so they wouldn't need to run generators.

Referring back to item 1, Police Chief Don Morris advised Jeremy and his staff of the Dept. of Environmental Conservation Law for the State of NY 6 NYCRR – Subpart 217-3 which:

Prohibits heavy duty vehicles, including non-diesel trucks and buses with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 8,500 pounds, from idling for more than five minutes at a time. The idling regulation is enforced by DEC Conservation Officers. You may be fined from \$500 to \$18,000 in the case of a first violation.

Exceptions are when your vehicle is:

- Stuck in traffic
- Idling for maintenance purposes
- Powering an auxiliary function or apparatus, such as a concrete tumbler
- Involved in an emergency situation
- A diesel-fueled truck operating in an ambient air temperature below 25°F for more than 2 hours

The DEC officers have not been called to the site but could in the future if there are idling trucks on the property. Chief Morris reiterated the trucks are not allowed and in violation of the code of the Village as well as the NYS DEC.

Jeremy said they would be starting a new movie on March 16, 2020 and would be filming for approximately five weeks. He asked if it would be possible to screen off an area to shield the trucks from the view of the neighbors. Bill Reagan said it could be added to a new site plan and that the complaints are about the time the trucks are coming and going as well.

Jeremy said they will do everything they can to avoid this when the filming starts.

Chairman Ostuni said if there is room on the property for a screened area that would help. They would need to update the site plan.

Mollie said they are working with the State Fair to see if they can park the trucks there.

- 3 – The tennis and basketball courts are being utilized for parking of cars and large trucks.
- a. These locations have not been approved for parking
 - b. The deed covenants require the courts to be available for public use.
 - c. The courts were not constructed to bear the weight of cars and trucks.
 - d. Are they prepared to replace the courts once they are too damaged to be utilized for recreational purposes?

Jeremy said he would like to have dual use for parking and tennis courts. Bill Reagan said there are cars and trucks parked a lot on the courts. When they are in production he would like to use the courts for public overflow parking. Bill Reagan said this would need to be on the site plan.

John Eallonardo said that when the plan was originally approved, he thought it would be maintained as a suburban school. This is not what is happening now with the trucks and vans parked on the tennis courts. He urged them to update the site plan.

Bill Reagan said they would need to maintain the courts by repaving, etc. as they are not designed to hold trucks.

Jeremy said they are trying to keep up with the safety issues and the fire code, etc. He wasn't aware of the safety issues when they bought the building and are doing what is needed to comply.

Jeremy said they want to do all the things they originally said like fixing the playground and intend to after the safety issues are addressed.

4 – Dumpsters regularly placed on the property outside of the approved, screened dumpster location. They should enlarge the dumpster area. They should have an architect redo the site plan showing these changes.

5 – The overall unsightliness of the property due to the regular placement of unlicensed cars, construction debris, props, building materials and other “stuff” outdoors. He also said that there is trash on the ground all the time and they need to enforce with their employees and people using the building to not leave the garbage on the ground. He suggested creating a screened storage area or eliminate outdoor storage.

Mollie asked about fencing. Fencing is only allowed to be 4’ in residential areas. Bill said they would need a variance from the Zoning Board for a taller fence. Plantings can be taller.

Chairman Ostuni asked for questions or comments from the board.

Dennis Hebert said they need to hide the “stuff” on the property, it is unsightly.

Jim Rosier said they need to update the site plan and provide a timetable for fixes.

John Eallonardo said we would like to see a new site plan. The board members could better address the complaints received if we knew when the fixes would be done.

Bill Reagan said they need to get a new site plan and their architect should get in touch with him to discuss the items needed. Mollie and Paul will be the local contact people.

Jeremy asked the board what would be needed to possibly add dormitory space in the future. He said the students would stay in the building during school. It would possibly be 10 rooms with overnight parking needed. Chairman Ostuni said they would need a zone change and the Planning Board would have to make a recommendation to the Village Board who would grant the zone change, if warranted.

John Eallonardo said these long range plans should be included in the new site plan.

Mayor White asked and wanted to clarify that they no longer will have tractor trailers on the property. Jeremy said they hopefully won’t and if needed would ask for a special permit. Mayor White also asked what types of trucks would need to be plugged in to outdoor power. Paul said that anything that was using the generator before would now be plugged in to the electrical panel and eliminate the generators.

Mayor White said the biggest complaints are from the tractor trailers including noise and diesel odors. They shouldn’t be outside in a residential area.

Barbara Dennehy – Fourth Street resident wants Jeremy and his crew to remind their staff and all people involved with the filming that they are in a residential neighborhood and not a sound stage. People are out walking dogs and kids are walking to school and there are cars speeding and pulling in to the school without regard for the pedestrians.

She also said with winter parking the film people are parking diagonally on Fourth St. and with the snow they are taking up space making it difficult for the residents to pull out of their driveway. She would like them to be more mindful of the area they are in and respect the neighborhood.

Attorney Rich Andino said that special permits are permanent in nature, not on an as needed basis. They should put on the site plan any provisional situations i.e. – makeup trucks, trucks after 7 pm, etc. They should anticipate what they may need and include it on the site plan.

Jeremy said they will get together with Bill Reagan to revise the site plan.

Village Mall – Bill Reagan received a rendering of the Village Mall building and showed the board to get their opinion. The owner wants to make sure the Planning Board is ok with it before moving forward. Everyone on the board agreed with the design and colors.

Onondaga County Settlement Plan – Mayor White wanted the Planning Board to review the 2001 study as it relates to Village traffic, traffic calming and recovering the Parkway. He is concerned about proposed changes to Tulip Street and said traffic is already over capacity. People living on Tulip Street can't get out of their driveway now with the amount of traffic.

Chairman Ostuni said the consensus is to recommend traffic reduction on Oswego Street and allow more interruptions of North/South traffic through the village with more East/West traffic flow at existing intersections. We should also use traffic calming techniques described in the "Village Retrofit: Liverpool" section of the Regional Settlement Plan.

The County asked the Village for ideas to mitigate traffic issues. Mayor White would like the Planning Board to submit any ideas they may have so we can send to the County.

There being no further business, Dennis Hebert moved and John Eallonardo seconded the motion to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandra J. Callahan
Deputy Clerk/Treasurer