

Portland Planning and Zoning Commission

Special Meeting of May ~~3~~⁴, 2009

Meeting called to order at 7:00 by Chairman Don Bascom

Members present: Don Bascom, Peter Clark, Carl Fitzgibbons, Bruce Tyler

Bruce Tyler was seated for Bette Jenak

The sole agenda item was a discussion of the Portland Board of Selectmen's proposed ordinance on bulk fuel storage.

Mr. Bascom described the purpose of the meeting; to review the proposed ordinance and prepare a statement for the hearing on that ordinance.

Mr. Tyler distributed his review of the proposed ordinance. Mr. Clark presented a draft letter he had prepared with Mr. Bascom.

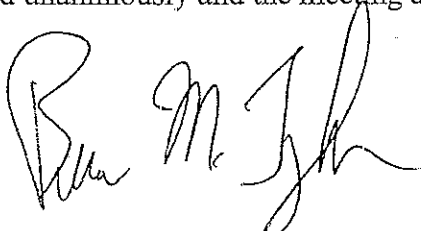
Mr. Bascom had asked engineer James P. Emerson to answer two questions: What is bulk storage? What would be the impact of the proposed ordinance on economic development? Mr. Bascom read Mr. Emerson's response to these questions in which he said that bulk storage is usually defined as a tank of 5,000 gallons or more and that the ordinance would probably have a negative impact on economic development.

Mr. Bascom next read a letter from Portland Fire Marshal Ray Sajdak to First Selectwoman Susan Bransfield in which he said that this ordinance would prohibit industrial uses of propane and fuel oil for heating and manufacturing and felt that a draft ordinance would be best prepared by an engineer.

Mr. Tyler discussed the points of his ordinance review and Mr. Clark discussed the draft letter. Mr. Bascom described the installation of a bulk storage tank in Cromwell. Mr. Fitzgibbons asked about a water deluge system and described such a system where he used to work. Mr. Clark pointed out that bulk fuel storage had always been allowed in industrial zones and that the regulation change extended that use to the IP zone. There was also a general discussion of buried versus above ground storage tanks and automatic versus manual safety systems and other safety features such as blast walls.

Carl Fitzgibbons moved, seconded by Peter Clark, that the Planning and Zoning Commission disagrees with the proposed bulk fuel storage ordinance and asked that Mr. Bascom appear on its behalf at the hearing on the proposed ordinance to express the Commission's disapproval. Motion approved unanimously.

Carl Fitzgibbons moved, seconded by Peter Clark, that the meeting be adjourned. Approved unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 7:32.



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