

**Pittsford Planning Commission Hearing – Furnace Brook Wesleyan Church
November 17, 2022**

Board Members Present: Kevin Blow, Mike Norris, Mark Pape, Chuck Charbonneau, Robb Spensely, Donna Wilson, Rick Conway

Others In Attendance: Thomas Brown, Chris Fish, Joel Tom Tate, Jeff Biasuzzi

1. Sign Review – Furnace Brook Wesleyan Church

The hearing was opened at 7:22PM by Kevin Blow – Chair.

Kevin Blow stated Application #2243 has been submitted by Furnace Brook Wesleyan Church at 3325 Vermont Route 7 in Pittsford. The hearing has been duly warned according to State statute. There were no attendees present via Zoom.

Rick Conway asked all to raise their right hand and swore in all who wished to speak at the hearing.

Jeff Biasuzzi stated the Wesleyan Church applied for a permit for a free-standing, non-illuminated sign and now would like an illuminated sign. Under Section 902 of the zoning ordinance, this item has to be approved by the Planning Commission. The application indicates it will be solar, on the ground with upward lighting. Chris Fish noted the ground-mounted is a good idea, but due to Vermont weather, someone would need to keep it maintained and there has been discussion that possibly a wired sign would be better. The sign would be downlit and shining towards the sign and the church. Mr. Fish is looking into solar but it has not been determined if it will be solar or wired. Mr. Biasuzzi asked for clarification of whether there would be one or two lights. Mr. Fish advised due to the size of the sign; one light would be fine. Mike Norris stated the Planning Commission has jurisdiction over lit signs but did not think the applicant needs to indicate how they would power it, as that is not the Planning Commission's decision.

Mike Norris questioned how late they would like the sign visible during the winter hours and asked if it is important to have it illuminated past 10PM. Mr. Norris suggested it could be placed on a timer, in the event there is light pollution and it shines in an abutter's window. Joel Tate agreed that it would be the most neighborly thing to do and asked if it would be a requirement. Mr. Tate stated it was assumed that it would be on a timer, but it has not been determined. Rick Conway read the lighting requirements from the zoning regulations to all present. Mr. Conway asked Thomas Brown, an abutter to the Church if he had any objections. Mr. Brown had no objections and promoted the lighting. Mr. Conway noted this is designated for zoning and the light is consistent with the zoning and suggested it was in character with the area.

A motion was made by Derek Blow and seconded by Donna Wilson to approve the application as presented. **The motion passed unanimously.**

A motion was made by Rick Conway and seconded by Derek Blow to direct the Zoning Administrator to draft the decisions of the permits for the Wesleyan Church sign and the previous Omya tailings management facility. **The motion passed unanimously.**

A motion was made by Rick Conway and seconded by Mark Pape to adjourn the hearing at 7:32PM. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Bryant
Recording Secretary

Approved by,

The Pittsford Planning Commission