

A Regular Meeting of the Town of Owego Planning Board was held 7:00 PM on Tuesday, March 25, 2025 at the Owego Town Hall, 2354 State Route 434, Apalachin, New York.

Present: Chairman Robert Rieg, Lynne Esquivel, Jim Tofte, Craig Wademan, Lisa Baileys, Cheri Grenier and Eric LaClair

Others Present: Irene Graven & Bill Carrigg

Chairman Rieg called the meeting to order at 6:59 pm. The minutes from the January 28, 2025 meeting were considered. Mr. Wademan made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Chairman Rieg seconded the motion. All in favor.

Appeal 2158

Chairman Rieg introduced Appeal No. 2158, a request for a Special Use Permit by Joshua Bestle to camp at 431 Frank Hyde Road, Owego. The applicant, Joshua Bestle, was present.

Mr. Carrigg introduced Appeal No. 2158 stating the request is for a camping permit under Town of Owego zoning code Article VII, 126-16 B(4) for his property located at 431 Frank Hyde Rd, Owego, Tax Map No. 96.00-1-7. Mr. Carrigg stated Mr. Bestle currently resides in Vestal, NY but continues to own the large parcel of land mentioned above. Mr. Carrigg stated that there is an older uninhabitable house on the property. Mr. Carrigg stated that Mr. Bestle will be placing one camper at the rear of the house and will be utilizing it when he is working on his land, planting foot plots, haying his field and hunting. Mr. Carrigg stated that Mr. Bestle expects to utilize his camper April through September on weekends and vacations then from October to December to hunt. Mr. Carrigg stated Mr. Bestle will be purchasing a camper if this permit is approved and the camper will have self-contained water as well as sewer. Mr. Carrigg continued to say that Mr. Bestle will be towing his camper to Hickories Park when the wastewater tank needs to be emptied and will be taking his garbage home, to Vestal, for disposal.

Chairman Rieg invited Mr. Bestle to explain his request.

Mr. Bestle stated that he will be selling his mother's house, a portion of the estate, but keeping the land, which Mr. Bestle owns and will be used for hunting and recreational purposes. Mr. Bestle explained that he would like a place away from home but since they are selling the house they need a place to stay.

Mr. Tofte asked if the house remaining would be habitable. Mr. Bestle explained that his mother's house is habitable and currently up for sale. Mr. Bestle stated there is one uninhabitable house on the property.

A brief discussion was had regarding Mr. Bestle's mother's house was habitable and on a different parcel than the parcel for the appeal.

Mr. LaClair asked if the property was in the Mr. Bestle's name. Mr. Bestle replied yes.

Chairman Rieg inquired on what type of camper is being considered. Mr. Bestle stated he would like to keep it a small camper, around 24ft range, maybe with slides and would be towable not drivable. Mr. Bestle stated it would probably not be a pop up.

Mr. Tofte asked if the camper would be registered. Mr. Bestle replied yes.

Mr. Wademan inquired about water source and power. Mr. Bestle replied that water will be brought there and he has generators and may consider putting in a power pole. Mr. Bestle stated self-contained batteries come with the unit and may possibly put on rooftop solar panels.

Mr. Tofte inquired that 421 Frank Hyde Rd is the 911 address. Mr. Bestle replied yes.

Chairman Rieg asked if Mr. Bestle had spoken to his neighbors regarding his request. Mr. Bestle stated no. Mr. Bestle stated he is dealing with a disgruntled neighbor regarding another issue who is not an adjoining neighbor to his parcel. Mr. Bestle also stated that he plans to place the camper back, away from the road.

Mr. Carrigg stated he received one phone call from a neighbor, Charlie Truman, who inquired on which parcel was involved and had no problem with the request.

Mr. Tofte asked if this will be a hunting camp. Mr. Bestle replied yes. Mr. Bestle explained his friend from out of state will come during hunting season, November & December, as well as in the summer, around August, to help with food plots.

A brief discussion was had regarding the camping guidelines stating excess of six consecutive months of camping is prohibited.

Chairman Rieg asked if the camper would be towed away when not in use. Mr. Bestle stated no, he will leave the camper on the land behind the house, possibly on a gravel pad with a barrier fence in front of it.

A brief discussion was had regarding the property does have posted signs to include the driveway but not on the house, as well as multiple cellular game cameras.

Chairman Rieg made a motion to recommend approval of Appeal No. 2158 to the Zoning Board of Appeals.

Ms. Esquivel seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously carried.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 22, 2025 at 7:00PM.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:13PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Tina Tamaro

Secretary