

**NEWTON CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

**DATE: Thursday, March 17, 2022 @7:00pm**

**Public Hearing for cutting on Scenic Roads by Unitil**

**Location: 2 Town Hall Rd (large hall)**

Call to Order at 7:01pm via Roll Call Vote:

Chair Alicia Geilen, Vice Chairperson Nancy Slombo, & Trisha McCarthy

**Introduce Guest: Ben Richard from Until via zoom**

**Letter from Ben Richard:** Proposed Pruning/Removal Work Unitil proposes to perform line-clearance maintenance pruning and hazard tree removal work on overhead distribution lines that run along scenic roadways in the town of Newton. This work is necessary to ensure safe, reliable electric service. Unitil proposes to trim to our regular specifications. The company will reduce the standard clearance requirement as needed to comply with individual resident concerns. All other pruning will be done to Unitil specifications of 15’ above, 10’ to the sides, and 10’ (or remove brush) below our primary electric wires. Customers will be notified of the pruning with a personal notification, according to Unitil specifications. Permission will be obtained from landowners for hazard tree removals. All work will be overseen by an ISA Certified Arborist. Tree pruning and tree removals are proposed on the following circuit and scenic roadways: Circuit E54x1 - Gale Village Road - Currierville Road - Gould Hill Road - Maple Avenue - Heath Street:

Mr. Richard explained the trimming would be 15’ above the road and 10’ on to the sides. He said residents will be contacted. McCarthy informed Mr Richard that DES NH Fish and Game Forestry division will also be cutting on 92 acres adjacent to Gale Village Road and be accessing Gale Village in the area of Nordic Woods, so he may want to coordinate activities so they are not working there at the same time that DES is.

**Note: No residents were in attendance for this Hearing.**

Motion by McCarthy to allow Unitil to do the required work on the scenic roads as described. Second by Geilen and all in favor.

Motion by Geilen to adjourn at 7:17

Second by Slombo all in favor

Respectfully, Trisha McCarthy