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in writing but wanted to know if Pelletier had any plans to present to the Board showing surrounding homes, anything other than the explanation. The response was that he was not aware that he had to provide anything at this hearing other than the write-up and the tax map indicating the abutters.

Pelletier stated his starting point would be an open range run by a range master, 50 yards, 25 points, and would probably be 75 total. This would be open for memberships and recreational shooting per hour.

Stearns asked what the size of the lot is and the response was 240 acres on Elbow Pond Road just off Old College Road. Stearns asked if there were any power lines and the response was yes, on the opposite side of the property. Stearns asked if he knew how many acres were in each zone and the response was that was not known; however, the zoning regulations indicate a skeet-type facility is allowed for both zones.

Pelletier reiterated that he was not told to bring anything other than his original letter, and if he had known he should have, he would have done a PowerPoint presentation.

Stearns asked what the title of the industry/business is and the response is training facility as firearms training instructor. Stearns asked if this would be for law enforcement, military, and/or citizens, and the response was for all.

Stearns asked what the size of the ranges would be, would there be classrooms, and would there be a building? The response was the ranges would be 25 points which is 100' across by 50' deep, there would be a classroom and overhead classrooms would be used to start. He is unsure if there would be a tactical store at this time. He would also provide hunter safety courses as well as policy and swap competitions. Smith asked what a tactical store was and Pelletier explained that the store would sell holsters, magazine holders and clothing.

Rankins asked how the sound would be mitigated and if people would hear gun fire. The response was that the area is already remote and people already hear gun fire and that there is a natural baffling already. Rankins asked if there would be any berms and the response was that some would be created to ensure safety, and as much of the natural landscape would be left, and they would build into the natural terrain creating baffles.

Rankins expressed a concern with lead getting into the soil. Pelletier stated he would have to clarify lead abatement with the Environmental Protection Agency. Keyser asked if any of the acreage is in Current Use and if so, how much would need to be taken out. The response was yes, there is acreage in Current Use, and 15 to 20 acres would need to be taken out.

Keyser asked if he was aware that there are already ranges in both Frank-

lin and Wilmot, and Pelletier stated that he was unaware of that. Keyser stated that in reading the Special Exception, it indicates water and sewage disposal are required and asked what the hours of operation would be. Pelletier responded that they are necessary only if there is a permanent facility (house), and this location would use port-a-potties, and the hours of operation would be no earlier than 8 AM and no later than 8 PM, not during the winter initially, and would offer low-light shooting courses.

Newcomb asked what types of weapons to practice and /or teach and the response was anything you would find in the average person's home; and there would be no M-16s or 454 tactical training. Newcomb stated that the Board received literature from abutters and the public indicating a huge concern with noise and asked about the decibel range, and indicated that the noise ordinance goes to the property line in Andover. The response was that the applicant is unsure of the decibel range. Newcomb also stated that the economic impact would generate dollars to the applicant and possibly the local business; however, it could detract from the local business and feels a study would be helpful regarding possible economic impact. Pelletier stated his customers would need places to eat, refill their vehicles, and stay for a multi-day session and that he would not want to bring a service that would harm the community.

Newcomb asked if there were customers already and Pelletier stated that there is a high interest. Stearns asked if state permits would be needed. Pelletier indicated he would need an LLC permit, then go to New Hampshire Fish and Game and local law enforcement for certified instructors and would also need to meet OSHA standards. Rankins stated the town may need to hire consultants to answer some of the questions and asked Pelletier if he would be willing to pay for them. Pelletier responded that he would not want to say "Yes" now, as he has no idea what those fees would be; however, if the ZBA gave him the questions, he could probably get that information himself.

He added that the proposal is for a small range (approximately 25 to 50 people if all positions were filled at one

time) and that these types of facilities exist all over the USA and there would be no gun site or front site. Rankins stated that the Board understands the town's interest and the zoning rules state the applicant needs to prove his case and present it for the Board to make a decision. Pelletier stated the Planning Board told him to go to the ZBA and that he did not need anything, i.e. design.

Rankins stated she had spoken to counsel and they advised that the Planning Board should have approved prior to coming to the Zoning Board, and the Board cannot make an educated decision with the information on hand. Smith asked how many people are envisioned at one time, and would there be people on site by themselves. The response was that at the open range for members, there would be 25 to 50 if all positions were full, and the conduct course is a limited course size of 12 to 20 people, depending on the availability of instructors; and an open range requires a range master.

Stearns inquired that due to New Hampshire laws regarding firearms, would there be any checking on sales of firearms. The response was target practice would be open to the public and tactical would require a background check beforehand. Stearns asked if this would be a profession rather than recreation and Pelletier responded that it would be both along with skeet shooting. Rankins stated that the education aspect could fall under "and the like"; however, law enforcement and military is more than recreational. Pelletier responded that this endeavor is part recreation and part profession.

Newcomb asked if he had thought about the operating cost and if insurance and/or bonding would be necessary. Pelletier responded that he has considered the cost and has the capability to acquire insurance through a specialty market with common disclosures insisted on by insurance companies.

Rankins stated that the Board realizes that the Pelletiers have the town's best interest at heart; however, for the Board to provide the Pelletiers with a list of things in order for them to prove their case, he understand what the Board needs in order to make a clear decision

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