



TOWN OF ST. JOHNSBURY

Planning Commission
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
Tuesday 12/17/2024
7:00pm Meeting

St.J. Welcome Center and Zoom

Minutes

Confirm Quorum of Members Present:

Jim Brown, Chair Ben Copans, Vice chair Larry Dolan, Secretary Ben Deede Open

Others attending: ZA Matt Walsh

Planning Commission Meeting

1. Open Meeting. 7:01pm
2. Agenda changes. None.
3. Public Comment. None.
4. Approval of Minutes from 11/19/2024, 12/02/2024. Ben C. motion, Larry D. 2nd. 11/19/2024 motion passed with noted changes. Ben D. motion, Ben C. 2nd. Motion passed 12/02/2024.
5. Town plan 2025. Continued work on form and topics. Consider and discuss topics as written by assigned persons. Next activities for working session. Discuss progress and final draft.
 - a. From Matt, Chad, Joe, initial drafts. Not printed.
 - b. Meeting with NVDA with Chad, Matt mentioned. PC asked about a PC member being present. Chair mentioned he would text Chad in the morning of 12/18/2024.
 - c. Matt mentioned Joe K also doing mission vision statement. Ben D.'s mission vision statement succinct and clear. Thumbs up rating. Best of our 3 attempts.
 - d. For clarification, Matt will put final PC draft of TP2025 together. Chair suggested Matt get some help, maybe NVDA.
 - e. Larry D. on TP2025 topic transportation. He met with Steve B. and Kathy, St. J. DPW. Need data on paper for more accurate assessment of current and future needs. More metrics on town roads, sidewalks, baseline information. Ben C. will consider more info/writings concerning bike/ped on transportation topic.
 - f. Jim B. topic education. Met with Superintendent, Headmaster and assistant headmaster. Ben C. suggested language change from private to independent schools. PC agreed. Discussed mental health issues as a concern for education in both StJSD and StJA.
 - g. Noted Chad was working on finance topic, still working on TP2017 goals. Prioritize public safety in TP2025. Working with StJPD chief.
 - h. Topic Preservation/Conservation draft Ben D. Considered Arlington Woods, land trust properties. Trail system.
 - i. Matt, topic land use. No update. Matt and Chad working on this topic.
 - j. Moving things forward. Consolidating drafts. Mentioned Chad, Matt meeting with NVDA.
 - k. Chair asked Matt for table with topic drafts.
6. Bylaw Modernization. Further discussion of public hearing and SB public hearing. Find out availability of recorded meetings, Place Sense participation and message. Chair asked for Zoom recording at 11/25/2024 SB meeting. Matt said contact Chad. Mention made of DAC at public hearing, asking about changing "signs" language in Bylaws.
7. Town manager report. Chair mentioned some details of 12/09/2024 SB meeting.
8. ZA report. Much of the same things happening.
9. Conclusions- Next activities, actions.
10. Close meeting. Ben C. motion, Larry 2nd. Motion passed. 8:59pm