



TOWN OF ST. JOHNSBURY

Planning Commission
St. Johnsbury, VT 05819
Tuesday 11/19/2024
7:00pm Meeting

St.J. Welcome Center and Zoom

Agenda

Confirm Quorum of Members Present:

Jim Brown, Chair Ben Copans, Vice chair Larry Dolan, Secretary Ben Deede Open
Others attending: Matt Walsh, Chad Whitehead.

Planning Commission Meeting

1. Open Meeting. 7:07
2. Agenda changes. None. Chad and Matt explained new addition to minutes process, stating that AI will be writing minutes that will require our reading of the text for inaccuracies. Also, all minutes from AI will read that Matt, as the host, was speaking.
3. Public Comment. None.
4. Approval of Minutes from 10/15/2024. Motion by Larry D., 2nd by Ben D, motion passed to accept minutes with noted changes.
5. Discussion of public hearing. Motion to accept final draft changes, if applicable. Changed approved final draft of bylaws. Retain adopted bylaws, specifically: 1. Lot size rural 2 acres, 2. Frontage 300', 3. Front setback 50', 4. Side setbacks 50', 4. Back setback 50'. Mention of waiver option is more available in new, compliant bylaws. Mention of forest blocks, providing protections with the consolidation of rural lands districts, concerning setbacks, lot size, street frontage. Motion by Larry D., 2nd by Ben C. to approve final bylaw draft with noted changes. Motion passed unanimously. May need another public hearing, depending upon 11/25 presentation to the Select Board. Public hearing must be warned 15 days in advance of hearing.
6. Town plan. Continued work on form and topics. Begin draft writing of vision, mission statement, intro to TP2025 including topics and priorities, maintaining topics from TP2017. Provide more details on topics. Discuss timetable. Next PC meeting plans. Reviewed education topic, added another part. Jim will begin meetings with local schools. Chad is working on the following topics: 1. Utilities, 2. Infrastructure, 3. Housing, 4. Public safety, 5. Recreation. Joe K. is working on the following topics: Economic development, 2. Housing and Neighborhoods. Larry will continue work on Transportation, with help from Ben C. Looking for more current data. Will meet with Steve B. for info regarding mileage of roads and sidewalks. Ben D. is working on Energy. Ben C. working on Recreation. Discussed mission statement and vision statement. Ben C. will follow up with edits of both. Jim will send his version of vision statement to Matt. All contributors will send write-ups to other members and Matt, with no responses to topics, in order to be properly prepared for working session meeting on 12/02. 97 days till final draft is due.
7. Town manager report. N.A.
8. ZA report. N.A.
9. Close meeting. Ben C. motion, Larry D 2nd. Motion passed. 8:45