



TOWN OF WILLISTON
Planning Commission Minutes
January 7, 2014 - 7:00 P.M.

Williston Planning Conference Room

MEMBERS PRESENT: JAKE MATHON, TOM WALSH, PAUL LASKA, SHANNON HILTNER, MEGHAN COPE, KEVIN BATSON

1) CALL TO ORDER

Jake Mathon called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.

2) REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF 2011-2016 WILLISTON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Ken Belliveau distributed a copy of the implementation table (Table 13.A) from the 2011-2016 Town Plan for discussion by the members. The new town plan process will begin in the early fall of 2014, so it is a good time for the commission to begin to examine what items have been accomplished from the current town plan and which might be carried forward into the new one.

Belliveau reviewed the items in the table. The group specifically discussed the implementation items related to:

Transferrable Development Rights

Village Master Plan/Village Residential Density- Belliveau explained that these two items could probably be taken together.

Lake Iroquois and South Brownell Road areas- Belliveau noted that these are on the schedule to address during the next few meetings of the commission.

Historic Structures outside of the VZD- Shannon Hiltner said that she had some interest in pursuing the cataloging and protection of structures outside of the VZD.

Signs and Outdoor Lighting- Belliveau said that some of this work is scheduled by the Planning Commission and that enforcement is ongoing. Kevin Batson asked what could be done in the updated Town Plan or bylaw sign chapter to help staff with sign enforcement. Belliveau said that some items could be addressed in the upcoming work the commission will be doing over the next few months on the sign and outdoor lighting chapters of the bylaw.

Transportation- Belliveau explained that the transportation chapter will have to be significantly reworked because when the 2011 plan was adopted, the circumferential

highway project had not yet been cancelled and alternative projects prioritized. The group discussed the desire for enhanced enforcement of crosswalk laws, particularly in the village.

3) PLANNING COMMISSION WORK PROGRAM FOR 2014

Ken Belliveau distributed a list of upcoming tasks for the commission to take on in calendar year 2014. Belliveau asked in light of the town plan discussion, what other items the commission would like to address in 2014. Kevin Batson mentioned the development of an energy chapter. There was also consensus to pursue a village master plan.

The group discussed the current work of the affordable housing task force. Belliveau reviewed some of the tools that group will be looking at for implementation that may also be reviewed by the commission.

Meghan Cope asked about the process of a Village Master Plan or if there are examples of other Village Master Plans in Vermont.

Kevin Batson asked if the group wanted to pursue allowing drive-through service in the Taft Corners area. Ken Belliveau explained that the drive-through question was scheduled to be explored along with possible revisions to the design criteria in the TCZD. The consensus was to leave it on the agenda for the commission to discuss.

Belliveau also asked the commission if there were chapters in the Town Plan they perceived as needing less work than other chapters. While some sections, like a completely revised transportation chapter and a new economic development chapter will require significant work, other chapters (like open space) may require relatively few revisions.

4) DECEMBER 17, 2013 MINUTES

Paul Laska asked if the commission should take a vote on any recommendations or comments regarding the capital budget's consistency with the town plan.

Meghan Cope and Paul Laska said that they thought the capital budget was consistent with the Town Plan.

It was the consensus of the commission members that the Capital Budget as proposed is consistent with the Town Plan.

On a motion made by Shannon Hiltner and seconded by Kevin Batson, the commission members voted 6-0 to approve the minutes of December 17 with the following changes

- Add Aron Merrill to the list of attendees
- Page 1, change years' to year's
- Page 4, paragraph 6, add "\$" symbols
- Page 4, paragraph 7, change "imply" to "simply."

The meeting adjourned at 9:30

UPCOMING MEETINGS

- JANUARY 21: LAKE IROQUOIS
- FEBRUARY 4: S. BROWNELL RD. / WILLISTON RD

For further information, please call the Planning & Zoning offices at 878-6704 or visit the offices in the Annex at 7878 Williston Road.
