

WILLIAMSTOWN PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

MEETING HELD ON: February 10, 2021
Minutes - - (DRAFT COPY)

PRESENT: Rich Turner, CH, Susan Lyons, Horace Duke

The Meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m.

Agenda: Motion to approve the Minutes from Jan. 13, 2021 as written made by Horace D., 2nd by Susan L.

New Business:

- Rich T. I attended the Feb. 9th BOC Meeting last night for the CVRPC. I've made copies of their agenda and one of the issues being discussed was the 21st Century Learning & Workforce Development. They are discussing moving the Career Center from Spaulding High School to Montpelier High School. One of the reasons being it would be more centrally located for students.
- Susan L. Spaulding High School already has the building for a Career Center and it has been in use now for many years. Seems like a waste of tax-payer dollars?! The students from Plainfield and Montpelier are already attending the Career Center at Spaulding. The students from Williamstown, and probably Northfield also, can go either to Spaulding or to Randolph.
- Rich T. CVRPC is also working on a Grant for Plainfield to re-build one of their bridges.
- Rich T. Looking at the last month's Minutes I haven't heard from Zach Maia on the question regarding Solar not being mentioned in the Williamstown Efficiency VT Data report and if there are any incentives available. I can touch base with him on this.
- Rich T. (Handed out a copy of the Emerald Ash Borer Management Grant Application) I will get in touch with Jackie Higgins, the Town Mgr. to go over up-dating the budget. I hope that ,Horace, you might be able to attend this meeting also, as well as Mike St. Lawrence, the Town Road Foreman as he might be able to cut some of the trees or know of someone who could do this.
I believe that one way we can do this would be by reducing our "in-kind hours" to match the grant that we did receive.
We will also need to identify the trees to come down. Any landowners could keep the wood if they wanted – or the wood could be made available to other town residents for free. They would be responsible for picking up the wood. A site to do this at will have to be determined. More discussion on this would be needed.
Gianna can help us with the decisions on which trees to cut. They were coded by diameter and entered on a digital map for our town. I also have a colored map that I'll forward to have Susan make some copies of.

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Discussion followed regarding the possibility of some of the local Lumber Mills purchasing some of the Ash trees depending on the diameter and length.
Rich thought that there was a lumber mill in Randolph and would look into this.
Could be a source of income.

Other Business: We received a hand-out from the State of VT Transportation Board regarding the Permitting of Helipads and Airstrips.
Discussion followed on this subject as there is a private airstrip in Williamstown. We have also had helicopters land in town for emergency transfers.

Susan L. Is this something that should be included in our New Town Plan?

Rich T. I can check into Title 24 and current State Statutes.

Rich T. Future Goals - - We will need to start looking at up-dating our Town Plan. It's to be done every 8 years and it looks like it should be done by 2024.
Prospective Projects - - Anyone with ideas? Any Transportation Projects?

Susan L. Whatever happened to the proposed sidewalk from the High School into town?

Horace D. It did get started because there is a sidewalk over the bridge going up Rt 64. It was to start on Brook Street and go up to the High School. The State hasn't done much on Rt 64 in many years. There are spots that should have guardrails and none are there. There is limited parking by the Library and no handicapped spot available either. The State owns Rt 64 and the bottom by the Library needs work.
Also – our designated Downtown Area from Meadow Street to the Spider Web Farm Road could be up-dated also to allow for more parking.

Old Business:

Rich T. Any other Business to discuss? None - -

Horace D. I will make the Motion to adjourn – 2nd by Susan L.
Meeting Adjourned at 8:40 P.M.

Next Meeting is for: March 10, 2021 - - 7:00 P.M.
