

## WILLIAMSTOWN PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING

MEETING HELD ON: March 8, 2023

Minutes - - (DRAFT COPY)

PRESENT: Rich Turner, CH, Susan Lyons, David Traczyk, Horace Duke, Jasmin Couillard  
Guest: Clare Rock, Senior Planner from CVRPC

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Office.

Motion made to accept the Minutes from February 8, 2023 as written, made by Horace D. and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Dave T.

### New Business:

Rich T. Welcome Clare Rock to our meeting.

Clare Rock Thank you for inviting me. I have a lot of information to share and have brought information to hand out.

Some of the items Clare discussed:

Statutory changes for municipal plans: Forest Integrity – New municipal planning requirement (Act 171).

Optional “enhanced” energy planning: Sam Lash (f) is the Energy Planner and if we go through the enhanced option this gives the Town more deference in projects. We need to tackle this soon, this year & 2024.

Pamphlets are available and Clare left some for us.

Funding resources: Local Hazard Mitigation Implementation:

Stormwater Master Plan: Can check with Brian Voigt on funding.

Pedestrian safety: Funding sources discussed and info given.

Building & General Services:

Clare mentioned that she would e-mail us info on Funding Guides.

TOWN PLAN: We can request that CVRPC review our up-dated Plan.

Village Center Designation Plan is up for renewal and it expires the end of May 2023.

This needs to be up-dated every 8 years. The application info is on the DHCD site, Richard Amore is the contact person.

Mentioned a Tax Credit Program for Residents/Property owners. Based on a per project request. Kaitlyn Corkins (?) is the person to talk to.

Christian Meyer is the new Exec. Director for CVRPC.

There are two virtual meetings available. March 30<sup>th</sup> – Planning Training Meeting – night-time meeting – about 2 hours. (NOTE: Received an e-mail that shows the date as March 29<sup>th</sup>, from 6 pm -7:30 pm. “Fundamentals of Land Use Planning and Regulation in VT)

March 31<sup>st</sup> – Zoom meeting – Wildlife

Rich T. Are resources available on new construction?

Clare R. There are some funding resources for a new community building.

Rich T. We are looking at ARPA funding.

Clare R. You can check with Sam Lash on this too.

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- Clare Rock Pedestrian Safety, Crosswalks & Trails - - Look at VTrans Bicycle & Pedestrian Program for Grants.  
Also spoke on the Municipal Planning Grant Program. See info on funding & requirements.  
Discussion followed on this subject.  
There is a Planning Manual that breaks down what needs to be done. I can have some copies made up for everyone.
- Rich T. Our focus is on the government requirements. We do plan on going through the Regional Planning Commission.
- Clare R. I do need to mention that your Downtown Village Center designation needs to be renewed by May 2023. It needs a Resolution from the Selectboard on the renewal of our application. Talk with Jackie H., Town Mgr. about this and look up the requirements on the VT Dept. of Housing & Community Development site.
- Rich T. Regarding the funding of the Town Plan - - I will talk with Jackie H. about this.
- Clare R. I know that we have covered a lot tonight and I will leave you with some information and will also follow up with an e-mail.
- Rich T. We all thank you for coming to talk with us tonight!
- Rich T. 8:00 p.m. – back to the regular meeting.  
I wasn't able to be at the Transportation Advisory Council meeting so will forward the Minutes for everyone.  
Also, Jens Hilke from the VT Fish & Wildlife Dept. has a "Staying Connected Initiative" meeting focused on Brookfield & Williamstown and surrounding towns scheduled for March 30, 2023 from 1-3pm. I'll forward that info in and e-mail also for any that want to check it out.
- ? Re the Village Center Designated area - - discussion to add the Veterans Memorial Park as part of it.

### Old/New Business:

- Rich T. Anything else to discuss? Nothing.
- Susan L. Just want to let you know that I won't be at the meeting in April.
- Horace D. I will make the Motion to adjourn – 2<sup>nd</sup> by Susan L.  
Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 P.M.
- Next Meeting: Wednesday April 12, 2023 – 7:00 P.M.

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