

WILLIAMSTOWN PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
MEETING HELD ON: May 8, 2024
Minutes - - (DRAFT COPY)

PRESENT: Rich Turner, CH, Susan Lyons, Rama Schneider David Traczyk, Horace Duke
Guest:

The Meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. at the Town Office.

Rich T. Is there a Motion to approve or add to the Agenda?

Dave T. Yes – I brought maps from when the DEC was re-classifying my dam.

Rama S. I have an update on Education.

Motion to approve the Minutes from the April 10, 2024 as written was made by Dave T. and 2nd by Horace D. (Note: This was for the Agenda, not the Minutes.)

Rama S. I'll make the Motion to correct the record that we approved the Agenda and the Minutes. 2nd and approved by all.

New Business:

Rich T. An e-mail was received noting that FEMA is currently updating the Flood Insurance Rate Maps (FIRMS) in VT for the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). This will be the first map update for many towns since the 70's or 80's. Also noted was that although some VT counties received official "digital" FIRMS in 2007, most of the flood hazard areas did not get fresh studies. The FEMA work maps for the Central VT Region are expected to be ready by the end of June 2024 and the new maps will go into effect in the Fall of 2026.

Horace D. The 1976 Flood maps are still being used.

Rich T. We might be moved to the White River Conservation District. This is in part because of the break in the direction of the flow of our streams.
Discussion followed - - Is Williamstown considered part of the Central VT Region?
We could ask if we could remain in the CVR.

Rich T. As the maps will go into effect in the Fall of 2026 our local Hazard Mitigation Plan and Town Plan will need to be updated. We will have more discussions w/CVRPC.

Rama S. Is Northfield's Plan anything that we need to be concerned with?

Rich T. No.

Rich T. Spoke on CVRPC updates. Transportation Advisory Committee meeting – discussed Mutual Aid between communities.
Energy Audit scheduled in Williamstown. (Susan noted that was done on Tuesday, May 7th at the Town Office)
Sam Lash is working on a draft on the Energy chapter to meet state requirements. Some of their timelines are; finalizing drafts in June/July; August ??; Sept. – final chapter analysis and Oct. - Draft Review.

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Old/New Business:

Rama S. Is their plan going to affect us?

Rich T. It should work in our favor for the Town Plan.
Rama, did you have something to add on Education?

Rama S. Just that Chris Lacarno asked if we could wait until after Memorial Day to get some numbers.
I'll keep collecting information and numbers.

Rich T. Went over Legislature updates.
Dave – you have some maps to show us.

Dave T. I have some copies of the maps from the Dept. of Environmental Conservation which show
the area involved if my Dam had failed. This was drawn up assuming that the pond was 20 ft.
deep. It's only around 3 foot deep as you can now see since it has been drained down.

Discussion - What happens to the silt left behind?
There are (or will be) silt dams in place to collect any silt run-off.
The State classified the Dam from a low risk to a significant hazard.
These maps could be included in our Town Plan along with the FEMA Flood Maps.

Rich T. Thank you for sharing this information.

Susan L. Just to follow up on a question from the last meeting regarding Main Street and the ROW. I
did ask Jackie about this and she confirmed that there is a 4 rod right-of-way by Chris
Dessureau's business. There is also a recorded survey in the vault that was done within the
last few years.

Rich T. Anything else? Nothing - -

Horace D. I will make the Motion to adjourn – 2nd by Rama S.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

Next Meeting: June 12 , 2024

