

WILLIAMSTOWN PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
MEETING HELD ON: August 14, 2024
Minutes - - (DRAFT COPY)

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

The Meeting was called to order at 6:08 p.m. at the Town Office.

Rich T. Is there a Motion to approve or add to the Agenda?
Motion made to approve the agenda with addition made by Horace D. and 2nd by Dave T. All approved.

Rama S. Motion to approve the Minutes from June 12, 2024 with addition to names. 2nd by Dave T. All approved.

New Business:

Rich T. Spoke on CVRPC updates. The Energy piece from 2016 was being amended with additions added. Questions were raised concerning public utility issue and pieces missing. The end result was that it did pass on July 9, 2024. However, there were concerns and a special meeting was held on July 18th to address concerns. After much discussion it was decided that there were no violations and the decision on July 9th stood as it was passed.

Horace D. The Secretary of State put out information on the new Public/Open Meeting Law. The video or audio has to be available for 30 days.
Discussion followed - -

Susan L. After discussing this with the Town Manager, we can do audio recording.
Rama S. Suggested to Rich T. that it might be best to check with an attorney regarding the requirements on the “public body”. The Town has an attorney. When someone complains and we haven’t recorded or video taped a meeting, there could be problems.
Decision was that Rich T. would follow up on this.

Rich T, Regarding our Town Plan, I hope to set up a meeting at either our Sept. or October meeting to discuss time-lines, etc.
Re H.687 – Act 250 – Land Use - Natural Resources. Now has a new name - - “Land Use Review Board.
I will e-mail everyone information on the Central VT packet. Look at pages 27 and on.
There is also a Legislative PDF link that I will forward.

Old/New Business:

Rich T. Rama, anything new on education?

Rama S. Not to date.

Rich T. Dave has information to share with us.

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Dave T. I went to the Chelsea Planning Cmsn. meeting. It was their 2nd formal hearing on their Town Plan. They were surprised to see me. No one had come to their first meeting. They did have two people from Twin River Regional Planning Cmsn. who were overseeing the meeting. I asked them what some of their difficulties were. They said one was the Wildlife corridors and the other was regarding Energy. Having the State mandates to adhere to was difficult. The State wants everyone to buckle down on clean energy. They are a small town. Something that they are stating is “Energy savings are not always possible for lower income residents.” (This is a great statement and the discussion was from our group to incorporate this in our Town Plan’s energy section.)
We spoke on flood control and flood resiliency - - they had no answers to this. They have Main Street flooding also – it’s on-going. No plans to address this.
I did ask if they had talked to the Army Corp. of Engineers. No response.
They also deal with the towns of Washington and Tunbridge with flooding issues, who are also small towns. They are still waiting for FEMA monies from last year and this year.

Rich T. Anything else? Nothing - -

Horace D. I will make the Motion to adjourn – 2nd Susan L

Meeting Adjourned at 7:22 P.M.

Next Meeting: Sept. 11, 2024
