

WILLIAMSTOWN PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
MEETING HELD ON: September 11, 2024
Minutes - - (DRAFT COPY)

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

The Meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. at the Town Office.

Rich T. Is there a Motion to approve or add to the Agenda? None made.

Horace D. Motion to approve the Minutes from August 14, 2024 as written, 2nd by Dave T. All approved.

New Business:

Horace D. Question for Rich - - have you spoken to anyone regarding the Open Meeting Law?

Rich T. Not specifically. I do have some updates from CVRPC, just a few highlights to go over and one has to do with the Open Meeting Law.
The RPC Board of Commissioners spoke on this topic and the recommendations were – per the law – that either audio or video format was required.
Green Mtn. Transit cut an estimated million dollars from their budget. Orange County should be o.k. The transit link to Burlington might get cut.
Christian Meyer spoke on the new H687 law and how it will relate to Act 250. I sent everyone an E-mail on this - - the pages 23 to 30 address this.
Energy Piece - - Sam Lash was going over information and things that will need to be updated. \$500,000 for Grants to towns will be available and they are looking at the towns with the highest needs. The (4) that qualify are: Barre City, Cabot, Plainfield & Worcester.

Rich T, Let's get started on working on our 2026 Proposed Budget. Worksheets were handed out to everyone. We went over it line by line and discussion followed. The following are the line items that were changed.
CVTR Dues - Rich gave an estimated figure for the dues of \$4,850.70.
Advertising was increased to \$500.00
Emerald Ash Borer was increased to \$7,500.00. We have over 5,000 trees in the Town Right-of-Way that will need to be removed. I will need to have a discussion with Dave Wilder, the Road Foreman regarding this. The State has some Grant money available, and it does include planting with the removal of trees. I'll look into the specifics of this Grant.
Mapping – We will have some assistance from the RPC and the Wildlife – but the Sidewalk design – we might need help with. That figure remained the same.
Town Plan Consultant – Zero this one out as the Town Plan should be completed by 2026.
Misc. – Increased to \$800.00
Grant Match – increased to \$8,500.00
Total Proposed Budget for 2026 - - \$28,236.37
The end result was to table this until the next meeting and to mail a copy of what was discussed to both Jasmin and Rama and at the October meeting to finalize and confirm the budget.

Rich T. AOT - - Re our Sidewalks in the Town Center - - this will require a scoping study. The State requires 2 public meetings and one meeting has to be warned as part of the application process. The State has their preferred engineers.

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Horace D. If you apply at the right time, AOT has Grants available. I would like to see the sidewalk go from Rte. 64 to Construction Hill with safe crosswalks for students.

Comment - - This could tie in with the Safe Route to School Program.

Old/New Business:

Rich T. Anything else? Nothing - -

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

Meeting Adjourned at 7:15 P.M.

Next Meeting: Oct. 9, 2024
