



Town of Bolton
3045 Theodore Roosevelt Highway
Bolton VT 05676
802-434-5075

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

June 13, 2016
6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Planning Commission members present: Linda Baker (Chair), Steve Barner, Jim Bralich, Rodney Pingree and Deb Shelby

Planning Commission members absent: None

Also present: Emily Nosse-Leirer (CCRPC)

Clerk: Carol Devlin

Agenda

1. Public Comment
2. Additions and Deletions to the Agenda
3. Minutes ~ May 16, 2016
4. Goals & Objectives – Prosperity - Draft One
5. Discussion of Commercial Energy Options for the Town Plan
6. Documents
7. ERC -- Update
8. Meetings:
 - July 11, 2016
 - August 8, 2016
9. Other communications/mail
10. Adjournment

Call to Order

Linda Baker called the meeting to order at 6:10 p.m.

Agenda Item #1 ~ Public Comment

The floor was opened to public comment. There were none.

Agenda Item #2 ~ Additions and Deletions to the Agenda

The floor was opened for additions and deletions to the agenda. Carol Devlin said that she would add an update from the Zoning Administrator after the ERC update.

Agenda Item #3 ~ Minutes ~ May 16, 2016

Steve Barner made a motion to accept the minutes of May 16, 2016. Rodney Pingree seconded the motion. The motion carried (4-0). Linda Baker did not vote as she had not attended the May 16th meeting.

Agenda Item #4 ~ Goals & Objectives – Prosperity Draft One

The PC discussed the following:

- Town staffing needs and need for more volunteers.
- Budgeting/funding.
- Shared service and/or equipment agreements.
- Maintaining Smilie as a community center.
- Centralizing town records.
- Improving the layout and functionality of the Town Office & Town Garage and flood mitigation options for the Town Garage.
- Options for decreasing Town's energy consumption and increasing reliance on renewable energy.
- Increasingly annual revenue through alternative sources (NOT increased taxes).
- Improving public safety.
 - Emergency response.
 - BVFD.
 - Establish agreement with Vermont State Police, the Chittenden County Sheriff, the Chittenden Unit for Special Investigations and/or Richmond Police for police coverage.
- Fire Districts, availability of water and sewer capacity for development.
- Groundwater mapping.
- The role of Health Officer.
- Participation in in state regulatory (e.g., Act 250 and Act 248) proceedings.
- The importance of siting for alternative forms of energy and communication towers and having strong regulations and a list of protected sites.
- The importance of the economic well-being of Bolton Valley and its relationship to the Town.
- Possible ways to support businesses.
- Minimizing the fragmentation of farms and farmland.

Agenda Item #5 ~ Discussion of Commercial Energy Options for Town Plan

The PC discussed the following:

- Education re: overcoming NIMBY (Not in My Back Yard).
- Wind power
- Solar power
- Possible sites for commercial sites
- Possible sites that would not be appropriate for commercial sites
- Putting solar panels on town buildings to reduce carbon footprint and provide town's electricity.

Agenda Item #6 ~ Documents

Carol Devlin passed out the All Hazards Mitigation Plan (draft) and the Conservation Commission's Management Plan for the Preston Pond Conservation Area. She explained that the PC would NOT be discussing the plans at this time. She recommended that the PC members become familiar with the plans, especially the recommendations, as they will help inform the Town Plan.

Note: The Management Plan for the Preston Pond Conservation Area has been approved by the CC but has been submitted to but not approved by the Select Board.

Agenda Item #7 ~ ERC

Deb Shelby updated the PC on the ERC. The ERC has continued to meet. Deb will present the ERC's report to the SB on June 20. They are working on three main goals:

- Bolton Market Day
 - Saturday, September 17, 2016 from 9 to 1
 - Opportunity for local businesses to have a visible presence in town & let residents know what they do
 - A community event
 - An opportunity for Bolton's kids to get together
- Continuing to encourage businesses to give the ERC their addresses
- Grant and alternative sources of income research

We also discussed options for using the Gazette to increase awareness of local businesses.

Agenda Item #Addition to the Agenda ~ Zoning Administrator's Report

Carol Devlin shared Sarah McShane's first report as Zoning Administrator. Sarah plans to report to the Select Board and the Planning Commission two or three times a year depending on how many permit applications she receives and how busy the Development Review Board is. The DRB agenda has been fairly slow.

Agenda Item #8 ~ Meetings

July 11, 2016

August 8, 2016

Agenda Item #9 ~ Other communications/mail

This month's communications will be shared at the July meeting.

Agenda Item #10 ~ Adjournment

Linda Baker moved that the meeting be adjourned. Rodney Pingree seconded. Motion carried 5-0. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Carol Devlin
Clerk, Planning Commission

These minutes are unofficial until accepted.

These minutes were read and accepted by a quorum of the Planning Commission on:

July 11, 2016

Linda L Baker
For the Planning Commission