

The Town of St. Albans
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES
Meeting held via Zoom Conference Call
January 26th 2021 at 6:30 p.m.

Minutes

Present: Casey Toof, Anne Pomeroy, Hannah Rounds, Al Voegele

Staff Present: Corey Parent, Director of Operations, AJ Johnson, Administrative Assistant

Public Present : Mike Baur, Sarah Hadd, Liz Reardon, Brendan Deso, Selectboard, Jessica Frost, Selectboard

Zoom Meeting ID: 875 0234 8124

CALL TO ORDER

C. Toof called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was not recited due to a lack of an American Flag.

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None.

INTRODUCTION: POTENTIAL PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER

Sarah Hadd, Director of Planning and Zoning in the Town of Colchester, and member of the Northwest Regional Planning Commission introduced herself. S. Hadd is interested in joining the Planning Commission and has submitted a request to be appointed by the Selectboard. After a brief meet and greet, the PC welcomed her, and thanked her for her interest.

REVIEW: FORMER PROJECTS AND PLANNING OF SIDEWALKS BY THE PC

C. Parent shared "Table 2" the priority sidewalk and path list as outlined by the St. Albans Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. He wondered how the original list had been prioritized and how top projects were determined. B. Deso explained the PC used an algorithm which weighed project costs, residents served by project, ability to be shovel-ready etc.

DISCUSSION: PRIORITIZE PROJECTS

C. Parent shared a map that outlines a series of sidewalk/pedestrian paths within the Town. If constructed, the infrastructure would accomplish many of the proposed sidewalks and paths within the Master Plan. The PC discussed the benefits and the challenges of proposing such a large pedestrian project to the residents within the Town. J. Frost offered to help campaign the project with the help of RISEVT. A. Voegele and A. Pomeroy both thought it would be helpful to show the project as a whole, but also point out the incremental phases. B. Deso advised C. Parent to involve director of Public Works, A. Mashtare.

DISCUSSION: NEXT STEPS TO GET PROJECTS SHOVEL READY

C. Parent is going to edit the Master Plan to reflect the newly proposed sidewalk plans. A. Voegele offered to check for Federal grants for infrastructure projects. C. Toof agreed that finding grants will help sell the project to residents. A. Voegele asked if there is enough staff to perform the upcoming duties associated with proposed projects. C. Parent stated the current staff is capable, but in the future as additional development occurs, we may need another person.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

L. Reardon thanked the PC for allowing her to join the meeting. M. Bauer discussed Homeowners Associations and how homeowners don't always understand what their responsibilities are.

OTHER BUSINESS

C. Parent shared the new Town website that is currently being developed. A branding firm has also been hired to develop a new Town logo.

SCHEDULE

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 9th.

CREATE AGENDA FOR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 9TH

The PC will discuss the Master Plan, and initiatives from the Selectboard at the next meeting.

MINUTES

MOTION: A. Voegele made a motion to approve the minutes of January 12th, 2021. A. Pomeroy seconded. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: A. Pomeroy made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:02p.m. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
AJ Johnson, Administrative Assistant

Casey Toof, Vice Chair

Date

Al Voegele, Clerk

Date

Hannah Rounds

Date

Anne Pomeroy

Date