

Town of Stamford - Planning Commission (SPC)
Public Hearing on Town Plan Draft
Draft Minutes
July 5, 2017

Planning Commission Attendees: Stephen Bechtel, Sheila Lawrence (presiding), Dave Saldo, Kurt Gamari. Dan Potvin(absent)
Guests: Bill Levine, Nancy Bushika

Call to order 6:37pm

Comments from Bill and Nancy:

- Suggestion to present changes to Town Plan as strike-outs and/or bold to indicate changes for easier reference.
- Clarify if Town Plan is for 7 years or 8 Years (p.2) (note: Stephen recalled plan was for 7 years, text indicates 8)
- Nancy requested that SPC minutes be available in hard-copy form in Town Office in timely fashion
- p.4, 4th paragraph down – Inconsistency in sentence “...Stamford saw its population steadily decline...brought new residents to the town.”
- p.5, 3rd paragraph, bottom of page. Bill and Nancy indicated the state no longer owns public land, it was given over to the Green Mountain National Forest. Therefore approximately 12,000 acres (11,917) are part of the GMNF.
- p.9, last paragraph, 1st sentence – Southern Vermont Broadband Cooperative operates four (no longer two) transmitters
- p.10 , bottom paragraph, last sentence – “One such effort is beginning at the elementary school where *raised bed gardens were planted in July of 2017.*” *Italics indicate new wording.*
- p.62, 4th paragraph, second bullet – The SPC and Bill L. and Nancy B. are unaware of any commercial wind turbine development project currently active in the town (...”at least two mid-sized commercial turbines has been advanced by a wind power developer...” This appears to be wording from the previous Town Plan and perhaps should be stricken. Keep existing text “Small and commercial scale wind turbines to generate electricity at suitable sites.”

Brief discussion of energy use in Town and how to take next steps to develop plan through Act 146 to give Town control over energy development.

Stephen B. motion to accept Town Plan as presented, pending revisions noted above.

Sheila L. 2nd. All in favor.

Nancy B. requested at least one member of Planning Commission be present at Selectboard Public Hearing of Town Plan to answer questions.

Brief discussion of sewage issues in Town.

Sheila L. brought Public Hearing to a close 7:12pm

Planning Commission meeting adjourned 7:12pm

Discussion of next steps for appointment of Town Administrative Officer. Ron Plock (current A.O.) has indicated he is moving out of Town. Administrative Officer is appointed (reviewed and recommended to Selectboard) according to Dave S. SPC needs to clarify next steps of process to select a new A.O.

Is Position to be posted?

Are candidates to apply with resumes, etc.?

Will candidates be interviewed by SPC?

Sheila L. will contact BCRC for advice on process. Also, can the Administrative Officer also be a member of the Planning Commission? Would this lead to conflict of interest? (Note: Ron Plock had been chair of SPC and A.O. years ago).

Stephen B. will contact Ron P. to determine his timing of resignation.

Stephen B. requested that SPC hold regular monthly meetings. Meetings will be on first Monday of each month at 7pm.

Next SPC meeting will be July 24th, at 7pm.

Next meeting to be August 21st at 7pm.

Motion to adjourn by Stephen B, Dave S second, all in favor

Adjourned 7:33pm

Respectfully Submitted by Stephen Bechtel