

NORWICH PLANNING COMMISSION
Tuesday March 8, 2022, 6:30pm

DRAFT MINUTES

Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89339717735>

Meeting ID: 893 3971 7735

Members Present: Jaci Allen, Brian Loeb, Melissa Horwitz, Ernie Ciccotelli, Leah Romano, Jeff Lubell, Jeff Goodrich
Public Present: Joy Kenseth, Elliot Harik, Jenn Goulet, Dan Goulet, Larry Ufford, Jay Benson, Andy Scherer, Amy Stringer, Mary Gorman
Staff: Rod Francis

Meeting Opened: 6:33pm

1. Approve Agenda:

Goodrich moved and Lubell seconded a motion to approve the agenda. Motion carried 7 – 0. For: Allen, Loeb, Horwitz, Ciccotelli, Lubell, Romano, Goodrich.

2. Public Comment:

Jenn Goulet, 185 Upper Loveland RD, abutter to proposed Upper Loveland RD solar generation facility told the Commissioners that they had been misinformed about the project, there are five versions of the plan and that the version submitted to Public Utility Commission (PUC) is different from the one submitted to the Planning Commission. She requested that the Commission revoke the preferred site letter previously issued.

Mary Gorman, 504 Hawk Pine RD, commented that she was sorry that the public were unable to share images that would show how the proposed site has increased in size.

Jay Benson, 8 Spur Lane, commented that applicants should be required to obtain reapproval when information about the proposal changes.

3. Discussion of Land Use Regulations Administrative Procedures

Chair Allen introduced a matrix showing six columns with the original draft text, track change edits and comments provided by Ciccotelli classified by type, staff comments and a column for recording whether the commissioners would accept or reject the suggested Ciccotelli edits.

The meeting agreed that the Chair will circulate a version of the matrix and compile how individual commissioners' vote.

4. Draft Land Use Regulations; General Section

Francis introduced the next section of the draft land use regulations for review. After brief discussion it was agreed that Francis will provide the text in a similar format to the matrix developed for the Administration section.

5. Announcements, Reports, Updates, and Correspondence

Francis gave a verbal Director's Report:

- The Wastewater Feasibility Study contract has been approved by the VT DEC engineer. The Selectboard will vote on approving the contract and funding loan application at their March 23 meeting
- The density study is proceeding with AES Northeast (consultants) a presentation is expected in April
- ARPA funds will likely be discussed by the selectboard in April

6. Sidewalk, Trails, Bike Paths Master Plan Process

Allen introduced a scoping document which proposed the formation of a committee to fulfill the Town Plan Action Item #6-3.b.

Members discussed the timing of such work, issues to be encountered by such a committee and next steps.

7. Approve Minutes of February 8, 2021:

Goodrich moved and Romano seconded a motion to approve the minutes of 02/08/2022. Motion carried 7 – 0. For: Allen, Loeb, Horwitz, Ciccotelli, Romano, Lubell, Goodrich.

8. Other Business: Ciccotelli requested that the Upper Loveland RD proposed solar project preferred site matter be placed on the next agenda. Commissioners discussed the merits of the suggestion. Francis provided an outline of the Commission review of the application for preferred site status in 2021. Commissioners agreed to let the matter rest.

9. Comments from the Public: Peter Orner asked for clarification on item 6 (above). Francis outlined the process and rough schedule for the study of the Beaver Meadow RD sidewalk concept in the context of bike pedestrian facilities centered on Huntley Meadow.

Meeting adjourned: 8:40pm

Future Meetings:

Tuesday April 12, 6:30pm Regular Meeting

Tuesday May 10, 2022 Regular Meeting

Respectfully submitted,

Rod Francis