

NORWICH PLANNING COMMISSION  
Meeting Minutes  
Thursday, September 26, 2013, Tracy Hall

**Regular Meeting**

**Members Present:** Tom Gray, Jeff Goodrich, Daniel Johnson, Richard Stucker, Susan Brink, Bill Flynn, Nancy LaRowe

**Members Absent:**   **Clerk:** Phil Dechert   **Others:**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.

1. **Agenda** –Approved
2. **Minutes** – 8-8-13 –approved without changes
3. **Announcements & Reports, Correspondence & Updates:**
  - a. **Communication Tower** - Section 248a Permitting – Construction has begun and is expected to operational by the end of November
  - b. **Pool** – No Change
  - c. **Emergency Services and Public Works Facilities Project** – Discussion on Breadloaf presentation to public (9-18) and Selectboard (9-25). Some concerns by members on process.
4. **Route 5 South/River Road Study Area**
  - a. **Municipal Planning Grant** - Dechert presented a draft for MPG’14 grant application for \$12,000 to create a “Master Plan for Mixed Use District”. After review and discussion, the application was approved with additional revisions to be made by Dechert. Goodrich moved to authorize the Chair to sign the Resolution for Municipal Planning Grant that had already been approved by the Selectboard. Brink seconded the motion and it was approved 7-0. The grants will be awarded later in November or December for work to be completed by May 2015.
  - b. **Public Outreach** – Engaging the public in the town planning process has become challenging with the advent of social media and other online alternatives to the traditional public meeting. Dechert presented a list of techniques and programs used in other communities for reaching a larger segment of the population that may not attend meetings. These were incorporated into the grant application and will be part of the Route 5 South/River Road project.
5. **Zoning Regulation Amendments**

A preliminary list of proposed amendments to the zoning regulations was distributed by the zoning administrator. In addition to stream/river corridor management and flood hazard area changes already being discussed, many smaller issues have been identified in the four years since adoption of the current regulations. The Commission will work on these in the coming months.
6. Adjournment 9:05 PM

Phil Dechert, Clerk

APPROVED 10/10/13

**Future Meetings:**   Thursday, October 9, 2013 – Regular Meeting

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