

Norwich PC Minutes 1/13/26

Members Present: Jaan Laaspere, Christian Spalding, Ernie Ciccotelli, Vince Crow, Mary Gorman, Bob Pape

Public Present: Miller Nuttle, Jeff Bruemmer, Adam Pearce

Meeting Opened:

1. Open Regular Meeting

The meeting opened at 6:33 PM with a quorum of four members. Members Crow and Pape join at approximately 6:45 PM

2. Approve Agenda

Ciccotelli moved, Spalding seconds a MOTION to approve the minutes. Gorman asks a clarifying question about an agenda item, Laaspere comments that that matter will be discussed at agenda item 8. MOTION carries, all in.

3. Public comment on items not on agenda

Andrew Pearce expressed his support of a Bike/Ped grant.

4. Correspondence

None

5. Capital Planning

- a. True recommended reviewing the current Facilities & Services element in the 2020 Town Plan against statutory elements required to support a capital planning element in a Town Plan, and map out any delta between these two. True and Spalding to make this analysis and report back to the Planning Commission.
- b. Laaspere discussed a space planning effort to tie into the current analysis around Tracy Hall Improvements.

6. Short Term Rentals

The group discussed the proposed updates to the Short-Term Rental interim by-law. True will forward questions about trusts and existing non-conforming uses to VLCT for confirmation.

Gorman moved, seconded by Ciccotelli, to approve the draft Short Term Rental Interim Bylaw pending VLCT review and recommend that the Selectboard adopt the interim bylaw.

Motion passed 6-0

7. Municipal Planning Grant Update

True discussed the Municipal Planning Grant that the town was recently awarded. It covers a work plan and budget to include a steering committee, a consultant, 2 charettes (covering topics including growth, housing, infrastructure, resilience, historic preservation, and community building) to lead to a draft of a Norwich Village Master Plan. The PC can have input for topics to focus on until May, keeping in mind that it will be a helpful resource for updating the Town Plan.

Nuttle requested that the PC consider applying for the VTrans Bike/Pedestrian Grant to help fund a scoping study to improve pedestrian and bike safety. (Future Agenda Item)

8. Future Land Use Map & Tier 1b Opt-in

The group discussed the RPC's Future Land Use map updates. The group agreed to hold a special meeting before the next regular meeting to have more time to discuss and clarify any questions about Tier 1B and village area designations.

9. Approve minutes

Gorman moved, seconded by Ciccotelli, to approve the minutes from 12/9/25

Motion passed 5-0 (Pape abstained)

10. Adjourn

Gorman moved, seconded by Ciccotelli, to adjourn the meeting at 8:40 pm

Motion passed 6-0

Future Special Meeting (Future Land Use Map updates) –TBD at Tracy Hall (also accessible via Zoom)

Future Regular Meeting –2/10/25 at 6:30 pm at Tracy Hall (also accessible via Zoom)

Minutes by Vince Crow on 1/15/25