

TOWN OF NORWICH
PLANNING COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING

DRAFT Minutes

July 14, 2026

Tracy Hall and Zoom

Members present: Jaan Laaspere (Chair), Christian Spalding (Vice-Chair), Jeff Goodrich, Bob Pape, Vince Crow, Miller Nuttle

Members absent: Mary Gorman

Staff: Steven True, Director, Planning & Zoning

Minute Taker: Steven True

Others Present: None

1. **Meeting opened at 6:30 PM**
2. **Approve Agenda:** A **MOTION** to approve the agenda was made by Miller and seconded by Spalding. During discussion, Goodrich asks to table agenda item 6. **MOTION** to approve the agenda as amended carries (6-0).
3. **Public Comment or correspondence for items not on the agenda:** none
4. **Chair's report**
 - a. Laaspere acknowledges that the minutes from the June meeting were untimely. Members discussed strategies to avoid this in future meetings.
 - b. Laaspere notes that the Select Board will hold a public hearing on the Short Term Rental Interim Bylaw at their July 22 regular meeting.
5. **Energy Chapter/Solar siting update**
 - a. Laaspere outlines the different work responsibilities work between the Energy Chapter working group and the Solar Siting group. Laaspere notes that the SSWG will meet to consider next steps.
 - b. True and Pape update the group on the progress of the ECWG, noting that the work will likely conclude following the group's next meeting on August 4th.
6. **Planning Commission Bylaw Revision – tabled**
7. **Village Master Plan update**
 - a. Members discussed the current village area map with a view towards expected growth or planning need in the next five to ten years. There was consensus amongst members that McKenna Road should be included.
 - b. Members discussed timelines and next steps. Members asked that steering committee documents be shared with them.
8. **Land Use Chapter**
 - a. True walked members through the outline of the Land Use chapter and shared the relevant statutory information. Members discussed what the important questions

are to answer early. Members discussed and reviewed the chapters' current policy statements. Members discussed current planning areas against current land use patterns, and how the commission may further categorize our planning areas.

9. Minutes from June 14th

- a. Goodrich moved, Crow seconds to approve the minutes. No discussion. **MOTION** carries (6-0).

10. Adjourn

- a. **MOTION** is made by Spalding, seconded by Pape to adjourn. No discussion. **MOTION** carries (5-0). Meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Next Meeting: August 11th at 6:30 PM
