

Middletown Springs Planning Commission

Unapproved Minutes

November 4, 2019

Members Present: Sara Young, Hilary Solomon, Tom Hurcomb, and Peter Blekis

Public Present: Maynard Yost

The meeting was called to order at 4:38 PM

- 1) Agenda approval: Approval as presented.
- 2) Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting of October 7, 2019, with discussion of upload of attachments
- 3) Correspondence: No correspondence
- 4) Old Business:
  - A) Regional Marketing Initiative: they have hired a new consultant. Discussion on how to keep up with it, with Sara on Rutland Regional Planning Commission (**RRPC**). Also, Tom is getting together with the Creative Economy Committee to press the Regional Marketing Initiative to be supportive of smaller towns in the Rutland region. History and purpose of the Creative Economy Committee and its future plans.
  - B) Energy section of Town Plan: discussed ambition of getting RRPC involved in developing new plan for Middletown Springs. Hilary brought up possibility of Middletown Springs needing to fund help in development of new plan. Tom suggested we inquire if RRPC is willing to help, when, and at what cost. Also, Hilary suggested we may be able to combine with other towns to disperse cost. Sara will inquire further in email (to RRPC), and attend their meeting in 2 weeks. Tom explained the purpose of the Energy Plan, especially pertaining to alternate energy issues within towns, such as solar projects.
  - C) Recruiting a Fifth Member: Tom posted an announcement on Front Porch Forum and elsewhere, and explained the appointment process Mr. Yost, should he wish to apply for the position.
  - D) Succession planning for Tom's position of Chairman discussed with no determination made at this time.
  - E) RRPC report: Hilary reported that Angie Allen is the tactical watershed planner for the Department of Environmental Conservation on watershed tactical basin plan, how the committee went through maps of the area and discussed implementation. These were technical plans with complex data and modelling. Plan will most likely be approved within next few months.

F) Building Committee Report: site visits were on November 2, 2019, per Tom they were sparingly visited, with Tom attending both the Town Office and West Street areas. It was reported that the Fire Department was well-attended. Discussed the potential tax increase and how some opposition is expected to be encountered, but an unknown degree. Tom reminded us that there is an information meeting on November 13, 2019 at 7:00 PM at the town school, with a vote on November 19, 2019. Tom explained how the costs of the buildings were approximated and what the vote encompasses.

New Business: no new business at this time.

Adjournment at 6:05 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Peter A. Blekis, Secretary