

Tinmouth Planning Commission

June 27, 2016

Minutes

Members present: Vito Macaluso, Bob Lloyd, Grant Reynolds, Kim Harbaugh, Kevin Ruane, Amanda Vumbaco, and Michael Fallar

Absent were Andy Gilmore, and Denise (Tess) McGinley

Others present: Gail Fallar, Secretary

Michael called the meeting to order at 7:30.

Agenda was reviewed, no changes made; minutes of 5/26/16 were read and approved as written, all voted in favor.

Members reviewed proposed flood resiliency amendment language, after changes, Bob moved and Grant 2nded to approve as edited and move along to a public hearing. All voted in favor.

Members then discussed whether to proceed with the solar/energy amendment – state legislators re-wrote the energy bill that the Governor vetoed. Grant noted it was a state take over of town's rights and looked like they wanted as much solar and wind as possible. Bob advised that the Public Service Board has until this fall to develop guidelines, that regional planning commissions were also updating their energy plans as well. The catch is that the Public Service Board has to approve them all.

Kim noted that he and Grant had recently attended a meeting in Middletown Springs held by a solar developer who pretty much said he could do what he wanted as Middletown didn't have any regulations. Kim advised that Tinmouth needed something in writing and shouldn't wait for the PSB.

Michael advised that Tinmouth is not opposed to commercial solar development, but thinks there needs to be rules/guidelines for developers to use, to be able to provide guidance from the town's perspective.

Members decided to go ahead with proposed solar/energy amendment language, though they also decided to discuss the proposal with the Select Board at its next meeting before moving to the public hearing stage.

Members then reviewed Bob and RRPC's suggested changes to the latest draft of the proposed solar/energy amendment language, removing reference to Mass and Scale, and adding Grant's list of historical and culturally significant features. Kevin moved and Bob 2nded to approve as edited, all voted in favor.

Next regular meeting will be Tuesday, July 12, 2016, in order to attend the July Select Board meeting to converse with them about proposed draft amendment of the Town Plan.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar, Secretary