

Tinmouth Planning Commission

May 18, 2017

Minutes

Members present: Michael Fallar, Grant Reynolds, Kim Harbaugh, Vito Macaluso, and Bob Lloyd
Absent were Denise (Tess) McGinley, Amanda Chisamore, Andy Gilmore, and Kevin Ruane

Others present: Sherry Johnson and Gail Fallar, Sec.

Michael called the meeting to order at 7:30. Agenda was reviewed and approved by consensus; minutes of 4/20/17 and May 6, 2017 were read and approved as written, Bob moved, Vito 2nded, all voted in favor.

Members continued review of updates to the town plan. Bob reported he now has it in editable form, has all changes/suggestions made to date and is ready to add them. Grant had reviewed the plan page by page, making suggestions, deletions (out dated information), additions of new information, etc. The PC reviewed pages 1-45 at its May 6th meeting, and continued the review to the end at this meeting. The section on PUD's (planned unit development) was discussed, should it be left in the plan but not promoted – does it really have a place in Tinmouth's planning needs – most folks want to move to Tinmouth to have elbow room, not be close to neighbors – that was one of the assumptions gathered from the recent community survey. Members decided to remove it from the town plan. There have been only three in town, all dealt with affordable housing and protecting remaining land in the parcel, all leave something to be desired. Affordable housing is better located in larger communities with access to bus routes, shopping and medical care. Members also decided to eliminate the term "smart growth" as it was not defined in the plan and seems to be widely meant to create a village area to concentrate growth in and around. Tinmouth has not developed that way, and is not likely to in the future. Bob will connect with RRPC regarding finalizing maps for the updated town plan.

Bob will now incorporate all for the next meeting, hopefully it will be ready to accept and proceed to public hearing by the Planning Commission. It will then go to the Select Board, they will have a hearing; they can propose changes and/or adopt it as presented.

Gail advised that someone from Sudbury has called to inquire about electrical usage in Tinmouth – figures provided to the Rutland Regional Planning Commission and distributed by them seem outrageously high. Sudbury and Tinmouth are similar in size, he had challenged Sudbury's and it was reduced tremendously, but wanted to inquire about Tinmouth's (did we have a huge warehouse using tons of electricity) before he questioned our data at the RRPC. Members raised concerns with the data being used by RRPC, Kim reported at the energy meeting he attended at RRPC, he was advised that the total energy requirement for the county was going to be divided by 27 (the number of towns in the county) and each town was going to have to make plans for that much renewable energy. Bob urged members not to be concerned about the regional energy plan, a town can't make a landowner install a commercial energy facility.

Members discussed the town plan updating process, it seems that Bob and Grant have done most of the work, should the contract with RRPC be re-negotiated? Members decided to mull it over for now.

Next regular meeting was scheduled for June 15, 2017.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar, Secretary