



Town of Mount Holly Planning Commission

Town Office / Remote Electronic – Special Work Meeting Minutes

Wednesday November 3, 2021

7:00 P.M.

Commission Members Present: Jon McCann, Stephen Michel, Jim Seward, Andy Schulz, Brigid Sullivan

1. Jon called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm.
2. No changes to agenda.
3. Town Plan Revisions
 - a. Facilities & Utilities Plan
 1. Fire Department
 - a. The Fire Department was sent a letter requesting information developed at the last meeting.
 2. Cemeteries
 - a. Mechanicsville and Hortonville cemeteries and a couple others are still private. Packer Cemetery has asked to become a Town Cemetery and there are 3 others that are town owned. Steven is asked to follow-up on ownership change for Packer Cemetery. No other ownership changes since the last Town plan. All should be mapped and list the maintenance responsibility in the plan. Tarbellville, Belmont Rd, one other on 155, and one each on 103 and Shunpike Road are all done by Dennis Devereux, and a Town cemetery committee. There are additional private family cemeteries on private land such as Tarbell family cemetery. Note the concern about state road plowing damage to stones at Tarbellville Cemetery in the new plan.
 - b. Define who is the town committee.
 3. Rescue
 - a. Assess the adequacy of the facilities and equipment similar to inquiry sent to MH Fire dept board.
 - b. Maintenance of existing facilities plus a question about whether there is anything else they would wish us to know.
 - c. Last Town plan did not have an adequate description of Rescue.
 - d. Resolved, to authorize the Chair to send similar, tailored letter to Rescue and all other similar organizations.
 4. Library
 - a. Invite them to draft language including usage of library, volume of use, internet access. Library should also be included in the communications section of the Town Plan. Include copies of last 2 Town Plans for them to adapt (2008, 2018) Ask what has changed, future plans, unmet facility needs, personnel and equipment requirements. Relationship to school library (explore details of school library in Education section.)
 5. Solid waste
 - a. Transfer station: Ask what has changed, future plans, unmet facility needs, personnel and equipment requirements. The Select Board directs the transfer station with Highway foreman as solid waste coordinator.
 - b. No sewer information in the 2018 plan. 2008 has one section. Add info about sewage disposal into the Town plan. Belmont is limited by lack of septic disposal capacity. Needs further exploration, however, this will not be part of the letter on Solid waste. Any future septic or solid waste discussion will need to acknowledge the superseding State requirements. The Health Officer is supposed to inspect any failed septic systems or unauthorized systems.
 6. Electricity and telecommunications
 - a. Broad band serves 98.6% of homes with high-speed access. Among the best broadband in Rutland County and the State. This will impact development pressures.
<https://publicservice.vermont.gov/content/broadband-availability>
 - b. Need to add language about the new cell tower in town. Downs Rachlin Martin had been coordinating. Jon will reach out to find out if they know anything about completion plans. Hope to be able to determine uncovered areas of MH.
 - c. Add more library service here;
 - d. Add more about electric resilience; business capacity; backup power systems; duration and frequency of outages (reference Hazardous Mitigation Plan).

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- e. Policies and Recommendations should be included in this section – to be addressed later in our process.
 7. Public Buildings and public land
 - a. Use 2018 List of Town owned buildings,
 - b. Specify Star Lake rather than just boat access. Triangle at Healdville and Lake St. is also town owned.
 - c. No public playground, park or trails (horses/bikes/hiking), child facilities. No town forests. Lack of public facilities often raised by new families.
 - d. That completes the Utility and Facility portion of the town plan.
4. Public comments: None
5. Upcoming meetings
 - a. Regular meeting: November 17, 2021, 7:00pm
6. Adjourned at 8:03pm

For the Commission,
Brigid Sullivan

In draft form until approved on November 17th, 2021