

September 16, 2021

PC Members Present: Zach Sullivan (Chair), Julie Potter, Clarice Cutler, Siu Tip Lam, Gianna Petito, Scott Hess, Kim Watson, Mark Lane

Others Present: Kristi Flynn (Recording Secretary)

Call to Order: 7:04pm

Changes to Agenda: None

Public Comment: None

Discussion Town Plan Amendments – prioritization of proposed actions (Actions 6.18.1, 6.18.2, 9.13.3)

The PC discussed the following three proposed actions:

Action 6.18.1

- Responsibility – PC and SB
- Timeline – Ongoing, as-needed basis
- Resources – possible funding for tech/legal assistance
- Priority – High proposed, if regulations need to be defended
 - Discussion – Ms. Lam suggested leaving the action out of the plan; Ms. Potter noted that it is necessary to go with goals and policies and should be a high priority; there are no specific criteria for priority.
- Preference poll – Top 2, High 5, Abstain 1

Action 6.18.2

- Responsibility – PC
- Timeline – 2021 and Ongoing (change to year of approval)
- Resources – leave blank
- Priority – Moderate – not necessary as carriers do most of the research
 - Discussion – Ms. Lam and Ms. Cutler would like to see it as High; would like to consider and move on and take advantage of recent discussions; the Chair noted that this action will be looked at for the next Town Plan update
- Preference poll – High 7, Moderate 1

Action 9.13.3

- Responsibility – PC and SB
- Timeline – 2024-2026 (next Town Plan Update 2026)
- Resources – none – can use PC/Town Plan/public outreach
- Priority – High – PC agrees

Ms. Potter noted that there are some minor technical updates and a paragraph must be added in the Executive Summary regarding the amendments.

Review Scope of Zoning Updates

The updates are the outcome of discussions from May 2020. The PC agreed on the priorities while working without the consultant. Action 10.2.1 on village zoning is done. The PC discussed the 7-acre minimum for the agricultural district and how it affects farmers. It is something that should be discussed at a future meeting. The PC discussed whether lot size or setbacks are the source of the problem. This is a broader question of how to deal with bigger lots.

Topics

- #4 – confirm boundaries – consider giving North Montpelier village zoning updates, which would require more public outreach
- #8 – side-rear setbacks – need to discuss
- #9 – district naming conventions – PC decided to leave as is

Review Village Zoning Districts map

The PC reviewed the draft map. Ms. Potter asked the PC members how they felt about the Village Residential boundary in the NE corner. The line follows the stream currently; the option is to create a straight line across from Kelton Road to Route 14.

- Preference poll – straight 2, stream 5, other (parcel boundaries) 1

Updates

- Capital Improvement Committee – meeting on 9/7 – reviewed current projects and discussed revisions to budgets; will meet in October/November
- Energy Committee – no update
- Resilient Roads Committee – committee planted 7 maple trees and removed ash trees along Center Road last weekend

- Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission – RPC discussed Central Vermont economic development plan, with goals and priorities; this is part of a federal grant-seeking process
- American Rescue Plan Funds Utilization – the town should receive around \$300,000; it is not clear yet what it can be spent on; there will be some public discussions with the SB on priorities
- Village Center Designation Renewal – the SB approved the application and it has been sent to the Downtown Board at the end of September for approval

ZA Report

- One new permit since last meeting

DRB Report

- Brown – approved moving business behind the residence
- Laquerre – approved expansion of commercial building
- Blake – approved height variance
- Twin Valley – approved variance on loading area
- Bliss Road – approved setback variance

Review Minutes

September 2, 2021

Motion: I move to approve the minutes as written. Made: Mr. Hess, second: Ms. Watson

Vote on Motion: Passed 8-0

Motion to Adjourn. Made: Mr. Hess, second: Mr. Lane. Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:45p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kristi Flynn, Recording Secretary