

**TOWN OF RUTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES**

DATE: March 11th, 2021

Publicly accessible conference line

OPEN MEETING 6:30 P.M.

Commission Members Present: Chair Barbara Noyes-Pulling, Howard Burgess, Sherman Hunter, Andy McKane, Mary Beth Poli, Jim Hall, and Norman Cohen

Members of the Public Present: Sandy Fogg, Doug Best, Andy McMillan, Chris Howland, and Thomas Elaine

Approval of the Agenda:

Ms. Pulling added the VELCO subdivision to the agenda. Mr. Hall moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business: Review the VELCO subdivision application

1. All necessary signatures have been received.
2. Discussed whether the planned improvements to the property should be included. Sandy Fogg from VELCO indicated no plans have been prepared yet. Doug Best from VELCO said designs for the upgrades are intended to be ready by third quarter of this year.
3. Reviewed the list on Form #2. Items 7, 11, 14, 16 thru 19 and 21 thru 24 were not applicable. A waiver for #20 was granted due to them being on file with another plat already. Items, 26, 29a, 29b and 30 were all not applicable.
4. Mr. Hunter moved to approve the preliminary plat. Mr. Hunter seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
5. Representatives from VELCO were informed of the next steps. A check for the application needs to be brought to Town Hall, and notices will be published.
6. The final hearing was set for April 1st.

New Business: Planning Commission member up for reappointment

1. The following members are up for reappointment:
 - a. Dana Peterson
 - b. Mary Beth Poli
 - c. Norman Cohen
 - d. Jim Hall
 - e. Barbara Pulling
2. All members would like to be reappointed.

3. Mr. McKane moved to request the Select Board reappoint these 5 members. Mr. Stearns seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business: Discuss option of updating Planning Commission related town ordinances

1. The Select Board has asked the Planning Commission to review the Subdivision ordinance, and any others they would like to, and see if changes should be made.
2. Discussed updates the subdivision and flood hazard ordinance.

Old Business: Finalize List of Questions for Prospective Developers

1. Some members have submitted options for questions to be asked. This list was distributed to all commission members.
2. Mr. Hunter commented he felt it important the list is not created so it is not the only questions we can ask.
3. Discussion about the intent of questions and not developing a script. The group agreed they wanted to be able to help developers and do not intend to act as if approval is required.

Old Business: Discuss possible helipad/airstrips regulations

1. Discussed future options for language to be created as a possible ordinance.
2. Discussed reaching out to other communities that have issued permits for these and any feedback they have.
3. There is currently 1 known helipad in the town.
4. Discussed inviting state representatives to come to a meeting and discuss this with the group. This will be investigated.

Announcements

Mr. Cohen discussed the enhanced energy plan and asked if the Select Board could take action to implement some of the recommendations. Mr. Cohen suggested reading the sections in the Town Plan, pages 66 to 69, to refamiliarize with the recommendations. This will be added to a future agenda.

Approval of minutes 2/18/2021:

Mr. Hunter moved to accept the minutes. Mr. McKane seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

Mr. Cohen moved to adjourn. Mr. McKane seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:32 PM.

3-11--2021

Respectfully submitted, Bill Sweet

Barbara Noyes-Pulling

Rutland Town Planning Commission Chair