TOWN OF RUTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

DATE: October 29th, 2026

LOCATION: Town Hall and a publicly accessible conference line

OPEN MEETING 6:30 P.M.

Commission Members Present: Chair Barbara Pulling, Dana Peterson, Howard Burgess, Andy McKane, Mary Beth Poli, Sherman Hunter, and Alternate Norm Cohen. All members are voting members for this meeting.

Members of the Public Present: Michael Miller

Approval of the Agenda:

Mr. Hunter moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Cohen seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: Municipal plan surveying on election day

1. A copy of this survey was brought to town residents at the Community Day event.
2. Discussed the survey and how the electronic collection will occur and be compiled.
3. Discussed how they can be displayed or advertised at the polls and other locations in town.
4. Commission members will plan to have shifts at the polls to help encourage participation.

Old Business: Work on updating the Municipal Plan with Will Austin

1. Did a high level overview of the process involved in updating the plan, and what some changes are going to be.
2. Discussed the plans and possible schedule for hearings.
3. The last day to adopt the plan is October 15th, 2027. This is when the current plan expires. After discussion, the Commission would like to have the plan adopted by July 15th, 2027.
4. Drafting should be done early April. The July date will be used to plan the schedule from now to then which will be sent to the Commission members.
5. Will asked for the Commission members to provide comments on the current document. A link to a digital version will be sent out with the ability to add comments to it digitally to make them easier to manage.

Old Business: New park signage update

1. Discussed determining a name for the park. Some options including ones with Abenaki influence were reviewed. Portage Park at Center Rutland Falls was the most popular option.

Announcements

Discussed the material sent out from parties who will be involved in the Walmart Act 250 hearing.

Approval of Minutes October 8th, 2026:

Mr. Cohen moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion. There was a clerical change made. The motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

Mr. Burgess moved to adjourn. Mr. Hunter seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:21PM.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Sweet

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Barbara Pulling Date

Rutland Town Planning Commission Chair