TOWN OF RUTLAND PLANNING COMMISSION
MEETING MINUTES

DATE: November 19th, 2026

LOCATION: Town Hall and a publicly accessible conference line

OPEN MEETING 6:30 P.M.

Commission Members Present: Chair Barbara Pulling, Howard Burgess, Andy McKane, Jerry Stearns and Alternates Norm Cohen, and Demetrio Gagnon. Mr. Gagnon is a non-voting member for this meeting.

Members of the Public Present: Will Austin, Michael Miller, Josh Lemieux

Approval of the Agenda:

Mr. Peterson moved to approve the agenda. Mr. Stearns seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Old Business: Work on updating the Municipal Town Plan

1. Will Austin, from the Regional Planning Commission, was present. He will be helping us in the effort to update the Town Plan. The new plan is due by October of 2027.
2. Commission members reviewed the comments given to Mr. Austin since the last meeting. Some were clerical, formatting and some were substance for maps and other supporting data.
3. Discussed the responses received from the surveys. About 12% of town residents have participated. This is a very strong response.
4. A new link to edit the updated draft will be sent out to members for review to discuss at the next meeting.

Old Business: Portage Park at the Center Rutland Falls signage update

1. Green Mountain Power expects the kiosk to be constructed by the end of the year. This is expected to be installed in 2027.
2. Caution tape is being put up to warn people of the work being done.

Old Business: Walmart Act 250 update

1. Discussed the upcoming hearing on December 1st. Several members of the Selectboard are planning to attend and the entire Board is in favor of the project.

Announcements

1. The former Cortina Inn site has been completely renovated and may be open as early as December 20th.
2. Budget planning for the new fiscal year has started. A few changes were made, legal expenses are down.
3. Reminder to members to get timesheets for meeting attendance in on a regular basis.

4. Discussed 2 documents which need the group to approve and to sign off on. The Town is applying for a municipal planning grant to develop a capital improvement plan. The application needs a municipal resolution and a letter of support. Mr. Peterson moved to approve signing the documents. Mr. McKane seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Hunter abstained from the vote.

Approval of Minutes October 29th, 2026:

Mr. Peterson moved to approve the minutes. Mr. Hunter seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Mr. Stearns, Mr. Hunter and Mr. Gagnon abstained from the vote.

Adjournment:

Mr. Hunter moved adjourn. Mr. Stearns seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Bill Sweet

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Barbara Pulling Date

Rutland Town Planning Commission Chair