

Strafford Planning Commission
April 19, 2021

DRAFT

Present: Steve Willbanks, Chair; Greg Colling; Donald Graham; Chrissy Jamieson; Mike Scanlan; Jacob Schumacher; Martha Walke.

Guests: Tory Littlefield, TRORC; Toni Pippy, Selectboard; Mary Linehan, Selectboard Liaison; Rett Emerson, Selectboard; Ed Hathaway, EPA; John Schmeltzer, VT DEC.

Meeting called to order to 7:04PM.

1. Minutes from the March meeting accepted as written.
2. Jason Schumacher and Tom Scull welcomed as new members to the Planning Commission.
3. Election of officers - slate offered:
 - Chair - Steve Willbanks
 - Vice Chair - Donald Graham
 - Secretary - Martha WalkeMoved (DG/MS) to elect the slate. Carried unanimously.
4. Changes made to shorten the Enhanced Energy Plan by Tory Littlefield and Martha Walke were presented by Tory and explained as removal of history and background information. Motion (MS/DG) to accept proposed amendment. Carried unanimously.

Discussion on TRORC's approval of the Energy Plan and their role in upholding the policies.

All changes to the entire Town Plan have been made in red, as requested by the Selectboard, and both a copy without the red and one with the red will be available in the Google docs for review.

5. The amendment and approval process (3-4 months) for the Town Plan was reviewed:
 - A. PC approval; draft to the public and emailed to surrounding towns, the VT Agency of Community and Development and TRORC for review.
 - B. PC public hearing after 30 days for public suggestions/edits.
 - C. PC approval of draft within 30 days.
 - D. Draft sent to Selectboard and they request TRORC to review to ensure it agrees with state law(s). Selectboard public hearing and at conclusion may accept the Plan or may send it back to PC for work.
 - E. Send to state Board for approval.
 - F. With approval by state, TRORC issues Substantial Deference.
6. Changes in other chapters:
 - A. When new census data is released, Tory will update graph in Town Plan.

- B. Went through and looked at all changes in red up to Ch. 8, Forestry and Farming. (To be completed at May meeting.)
- C. Voted to remove new Implementation Task (Ch. 8, F) concerning the creation of new trails.

7. Ed Hathaway and John Schmeltzer presented an update on the finalizing of the Elizabeth Mine work that has been ongoing since 1999.

Ed reviewed, using maps, what has been done and the ongoing work on waste water management area and assessing ground water. Discussed the land use restrictions for the landowners (wells). They will be overseeing Tyson Bridge repair work and inserting a cement plug under Mine Rd. to prevent collapse of 1848 adit. The contamination in the tunnels will have to be lived with as there is nothing that can be done to mitigate it.

John spoke on the state's institutional controls of the site and the reclassifying of the groundwater as non-potable water. They are drafting a reclassification order dealing with wells - their depth and other requirements depending on where dug. The landowners, and adjacent landowners, will be notified of these reclassifications and there will be a public meeting.

8. Tory downloaded pertinent documents to Google docs for the Commission's review.

Meeting adjourned at 8:42PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha M. Walke, Secretary