

Minutes for the Select Board

August 16, 2017 at the Town Office

Members of the board present: Toni Pippy (chair), John Freitag, Brian Johnson, Stephen Marx, Kate Siepmann

Also present: Lisa Bragg (Town Clerk) and Jon MacKinnon (Road Foreman), Jennifer Brown (*Herald* reporter) Participating citizens: Bob Bushway, Jim Schley, Art Hanchett

1. July 1 Storm Damage Repairs - Update

Bob Bushway came to see that the Board was properly following up on the road repairs necessitated by the July 1 rainstorm. Toni, Brian, and John all responded with updates to the progress on the roads, the work that has been done cataloguing the damage, creating specs for contractor bids, and completing all paper work necessary to procure funding from FEMA, if that grant is made, and other sources if FEMA funds do not come through. Bob's parting remark was, "What amazed me about that July 1 downpour was that within one hour, our Town crew was out on the roads working. I'll bet you not many towns can say that." The Board responded with loud affirmation. We are all immensely proud and grateful for the quality of our road foreman and crew. There being no other citizen input about the roads, the Board moved on the the 2nd item on the agenda at 6:15.

2. Work session for final Town Plan Review

Primary attention was to the Sections F,G, and H regarding Village Centers, Rural Residential I and Rural Residential II. The Draft Town Plan recommended that new development be concentrated in and around the two Village Centers. The Draft did not account for the fact that there is, at present, virtually no land available for new development.

A motion by John, seconded by Stephen read: "The village centers shall be expanded beyond the existing boundaries in both villages. In South Strafford the Village shall be extended south along Rte.132 to Tyson Road and from the Mine Road down Tyson Road to Rte. 132. In Strafford, the boundary shall be extended from Justin Morrill Highway up the Brook Road to the power lines; and from the Common to the Old City Falls Road." Brian recused himself, the remaining 4 members voted in favor.

Section G - RRI Policies

Item #4: add at the end, "home occupations such as wholesale occupations, internet marketing, carpentry and woodworking, and vehicle and small engine repair garages."

Item #5: "All commercial and retail development must be consistent with the purposes of this district"— eliminate the words "conditional use."

Item #6: change to "3 living units."

The question was moved by John, seconded by Toni. All approved.

Section H - RRII Policies

Item #2: After outdoor recreation, add "and small-scale home occupations"; eliminate "conditional use."

Implementation Tasks

#2 "The Planning Commission should add language in the Zoning Bylaw that will minimized fragmentation of forest block and wildlife habitat and encourage the conservation of wildlife connecting areas."

All references to implementing the Strafford Open Space Plan will be eliminated because, upon investigation, it was found the Strafford Open Space Plan was purely advisory and had never been adopted.

Adopting changes to this section was moved by John, seconded by Toni. All approved.

Section I - Land and Forest Conservation

The second sentence should read: "This district consists of land *currently* conserved through public ownership or other land use policies from land trusts and organizations."

Land Use RRII - Implementation Tasks

Remove "or prevents" and reference to Strafford's Open Space Plan"

Ditto remove Strafford's Open Space Plan under Land and Forest Conservation.

Jim Schley channeled some wisdom of the ages:

You can do what you want when you want with what you got.

Brian moved and Stephen seconded a motion to adjourn at 7:45. All agreed.

Faithfully submitted,
Kate Siepmann
Recording secretary