

STRAFFORD PLANNING COMMISSION

November 16, 2020

Present: Steve Willbanks, Chair; Greg Colling; Kevin Grady; Donald Graham; Chrissy Jamieson; Michale Scanlan; Martha Walke.

Guests: Geoff Martin, Regional Energy Coordinator; Victoria Littlefield, TRORC.

Called to order at 7:05PM.

1. Minutes from October meeting accepted with corrections.
2. Geoff Martin spoke about his work in collecting data on electricity and heating usage in specific town buildings and comparing the different towns' usage; a greenhouse gas emissions inventory; increased community interest in solar; and renewable energy credits. He is working with Kevin Grady to increase solar construction.
3. Victoria Littlefield spoke on preferred locations and constraints in Strafford for solar and/or wind arrays.
4. A discussion ensued on the energy plans in Norwich, Thetford and Corinth and how some ideas could be put into Strafford's energy plan.
5. Discussed the Ashley Community Forest and the request from the Alliance for VT Communities for a letter of support from the Strafford Planning Commission. There will be vote by the town (Australian ballot), in January, on whether to accept this gift.
6. The Selectboard is concerned about the lack of land in Strafford for housing (18-20% of the town is in conservation and 60% is in current use). The village areas were expanded to encourage building.

Unanimous decision to change the regular Planning Commission meeting in December from the 21st to the 14th.

Meeting adjourned at 8:31PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha M. Walke, Secretary