

Newfield Planning Board Meeting Minutes – Approved

May 20, 2015

In Attendance:

- **Planning Board:** Karen Trask (Chair), Tom Gerow, René Borgella, Leo Tidd
- **Secretary:** Barbara Tefft
- **Also in attendance:** Nancy Dolge, Keri Blakinger – Newfield News

Meeting called to order, 7:10 pm, Newfield Town Hall.

Minutes of May 5, 2015:

Motion to Approve: René

Second: Tom

Abstain: Leo - absent

Discussion: Minor edit

Approval: Unanimous, with 1 abstention

Grants Update: Nancy Dolge

- NYS Consolidated Funding Grant Call for Application announced.
- This grant does not look like it will fit with Newfield Planning Board needs. Grants specifically need to apply to sustainability and green energy projects to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Newfield not far enough along in Land Use Regulation process to be competitive for grant.
- TCCOG/Tompkins County/Newfield do not pay dues to the organization.
- May be able to fit under a Local Government Efficiency Program grant.
- Town of Newfield may need to commit more money toward Land Use Planning to move the process farther along before being eligible for more specific grants.
- Nancy will speak with Ed Flynn at LaBella, Joan Jurkowich, Katie Borgella and Park Foundation about options for funding.
- Possibility of using templates from other government organizations and customize for Newfield.
- Karen spoke with Town Board about presenting information from the Planning Board Roundtable Training Session on Land Use Regulation to the Town Board. Agreed.

Town Board Report: Karen

- Karen announced that the Planning Board had very successful Roundtable Training with much information to share.
- Noise Ordinance
 - Going back to drawing board.
 - Any decibel reader has to be owned by State Police or County Sheriff.
 - State does/will not have meters and there is no enforcement of existing posted decibel limit signs.
 - Town considering subjective determination and temporary noise permits.
 - There are no longer any local State Troopers with intimate knowledge of the residents and dynamics of the Town this would allow them to effectively police and enforce subjective limits without favoritism.
- Cell Phone Tower Law passed
 - Verizon presentation indicated they will essentially pay anything to get a cell tower in the Town.
 - Tax base is on .23 acres of land for facility, building and pad but not value of the actual tower or value of service provided by tower.

- Verizon will have to beef up road, plant trees to screen site, obtain setback variance, etc.
- Verizon will provide 4G service and phone
- Construction estimated to take three months to complete, functional by fall 2016.

New Business:

- Planning Board summer meeting dates:
 - June 3, 2015 – will discuss further dates at this meeting
- Karen talked to Town Board about changing Planning board requirement for having an ag rep.
- Town Board will have two seats open and there are currently no identified potential candidates to run.
- All existing Town Ordinances are now available online on the Town website. Question as to how to get ordinance updates posted online in the future.
- Karen was contacted by the Town of Truxton regarding waste transfer stations and gave them link to Newfield Ordinances as a resource.
- Karen has packet on NYS Department of State SPR Land Use Planning & Regulation from local government handbook
- Education piece – Land Use Regulation
 - Site Plan Review – look at Enfield and Caroline SPR and put an education piece together to present to Town Board.
 - How would Land Use Planning have impacted past unregulated activity and incidents that inspired piecemeal regulation?
 - Maximize utilization of and authorize Planning Board to allow Town Board to focus on more immediate pressing concerns.
 - Can use examples from other towns issues presented at the Roundtable Training.

Discussion: Roundtable Training Session

- ~~Review of notes from Roundtable~~

Town Board Meeting Representative:

- René will attend June 11, 2015 TB meeting
- Tom will attend July 9, 2015 TB meeting
- Leo will attend August 13, 2015 TB meeting

To Do:

- Karen – start putting details of Site Plan Review together
- Tom – clearing up misconceptions of Land Use Regulation
- Review articles on Site Plan Review and Creating the Community You Want, as well as Enfield and Caroline regulations.
- Pull ideas together for PowerPoint and packet presentation to Town Board.
- Inquire about presenting at Town Board Work Session June 25, 2015.

The next public Newfield Planning Board Meeting is, WEDNESDAY, June 3, 2015 at 7:00pm at the Newfield Town Hall.

Motion to Adjourn: René

Second: Leo

Approval: Unanimous

Meeting Adjourned: 8:37 pm