



Town of Newfield Planning Board

Meeting Minutes
August 5, 2020

Opening

The regular meeting of the Town of Newfield Planning Board was called to order by Chairman Leo Tidd at 7:06 PM. The meeting was held virtually via ZOOM.

Present

Planning Board: Chairman Leo Tidd, Vice Chairman Jacob Marnell, Randy Brown, Brenda Lapp, Jim Haustein; Town Board: Mike Allinger. Other: Michelle Henry.

Privilege of the Floor

No items of discussion.

Approval of Minutes

The July 1, 2020 Minutes were reviewed and approved.

Newfield Hamlet Revitalization Plan (NEWHARP)

The Planning Board is investigating options for a Hamlet revitalization plan.

Cornell Design Connect

Cornell Design Connect will partner with the Planning Board on a NEWHARP project for the Fall 2020 semester. The Design Connect project manager will be Tyler Kutty, a 3rd-year planning student who has had previous Design Connect experience in community revitalization projects. An initial ZOOM meeting with Tyler was attended by Leo Tidd and Jim Haustein on July 7. Exact timing of the project is not known due to questions regarding procedures and timeframes for students returning to Cornell. It appears however, that an initial site visit may commence during August. Primary goals for the initiative include a plan that will be submitted for state funding, something to show to the community as a potential future for the Hamlet, and a blueprint/guideline for future development.

Also of note, on July 30 a meeting was held at the Town Hall attended by Mike Allinger, Christine Laughlin, Kevin Berggren, Matt Watros, Jim Haustein and Donald (Donnie) Harner of T. G. Miller of Ithaca regarding some ideas T. G. Miller has been discussing with the Newfield Highway Department regarding the Main Street/Bridge Street/Shaffer



Road intersection. The Newfield Highway Department is a major stakeholder in the Cornell Design Program and will be involved accordingly.

Open Issues

Subdivision Review Law

- Status – The comment period for public input into the proposed Subdivision Law is open until August 13; the Town Board is currently planning a vote on the law at their regularly-scheduled August 13 meeting.
- Draft Subdivision Review Law Application – This document was reviewed, and comments provided; ACTION ITEM: Jim Haustein to make additional editorial changes and provide to Mike Allinger for dissemination to the Town Board.

New Business

Site Plan Reviews

- No new Site Plan Reviews have been received or are pending.
- The Millard Hill Solar Project is providing bi-weekly status reports to the Planning Board per the conditions of the Site Plan approval for that activity.

Review of Building Permits

The Planning Board had no concerns or comments on any of the other Building Permits issued during July 2020.

Miscellaneous

NYStretch and Newfield Climate Smart Committee

Two members of the Planning Board previously attended a webinar “NYStretch Energy Code 2020: A Tool for Meeting Communities’ Climate Goals” hosted by the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry as part of their NY State Green Building Conference. Recently, the Town Board has appointed a Newfield Climate Smart Committee. The Planning Board has had discussion with the Climate Smart Committee and will hold off on any involvement with NYStretch until such time that the Climate Smart Committee requests Planning Board involvement.

More information on the Climate Smart initiative may be found at <https://climatesmart.ny.gov/>.



Clarity Connect Fiber Expansion into Newfield

As a result of the “New NY Broadband Program,” Clarity Connect has expanded fiber in several areas of Newfield. It still appears, however, that a lot of areas in Newfield may still be underserved. More information may be found on the Town website at <https://newfieldny.org/clarity-connect-fiber-expansion-in-newfield/>.

Agenda for Next Meeting

- Newfield Hamlet Revitalization Plan (NEWHARP)
 - Cornell Design Connect
 - Miscellaneous
- Subdivision Law
- Review of Site Plans Received
- Review of Building Permits
- Miscellaneous

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jacob Marnell and seconded by Leo Tidd. The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Leo Tidd at 8:06 PM. The next general meeting of the Newfield Planning Board will be at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, September 2, 2020. Venue (via ZOOM or at the Town Hall) to be determined.

Submitted by Jim Haustein