



## **Town of Newfield Planning Board**

Meeting Notes  
February 5, 2020

### **Opening**

The regularly-scheduled Town of Newfield Planning Board for February 5, 2020 was not held as a quorum was not present. However, Planning Board attendees used the opportunity to discuss the tentative New York Main Street Technical Assistance Grant application with Joan Jurkowich of the Tompkins County Department of Planning and Sustainability.

### **Present**

Planning Board: Chairman Leo Tidd, Jim Haustein (not present: Vice Chairman Jacob Marnell, Randy Brown). Town Board: Mike Allinger. Other: Joan Jurkowich, Tompkins County Department of Planning and Sustainability; Brenda Lapp.

### **Newfield Hamlet Revitalization Plan (NEWHARP)**

The Planning Board is planning to submit a Technical Assistance Grant request from the New York State Main Street Program.

Joan Jurkowich from the Tompkins County Department of Planning and Sustainability attended the February 5 Planning Board meeting to provide an update on initial research findings and next steps.

Joan Jurkowich recommends the “best option” for initial funding of NEWHARP would be the New York State Main Street Program. An announcement to apply for grants is usually made in April or May with applications via the CFA (Consolidated Funding Application) likely due in July.

Joan Jurkowich led some discussion on possible focus areas for the Newfield Hamlet Revitalization Plan, including the following:

- Attracting Newfield Residents to the Main Street Area (for example, promote new businesses and identify opportunities for new small businesses; deemed priority item for focus)
- Critical Buildings and Locations (deemed priority item for focus)
- “Public Realm” Facilities and Aesthetics (for example, streetscape, etc.)



- Promote Main Street Beyond Newfield (for example, tourists and other area residents)
- Major Renovations to Existing Buildings (for example, code compliance, energy efficiency)
- Develop More Housing for Main Street and in the Hamlet (likely beyond the initial scope of NEWHARP)

Joan Jurkowich will contact the New York State Main Street Program regarding the Newfield Planning Board's application. Joan believes that historically money has been allocated to larger communities; this may create some challenges – or benefits – to Newfield's application.

Joan Jurkowich will draft a scope for the Technical Assistance Grant and will attend the March Planning Board meeting to discuss. Joan recommends that a consultant or the Tompkins County Department of Planning and Sustainability be contracted to write the actual grant application. Joan estimates 40 hours of consultant effort to prepare such.

To date, the Planning Board has investigated two other options for seeking outside assistance: Randy Brown contacted Thoma Development Consultants of Cortland regarding possible assistance in writing the application for a Technical Assistance Grant and Jim Haustein contacted Choice Words of Poughkeepsie who has not replied to his inquiry.

Randy Brown and Jim Haustein also surveyed the hamlet area along Main Street and developed an initial list of properties that may be proposed for assistance under the New York Main Street program in the event that funding is requested for renovating existing buildings.

**ACTION ITEM:** Jim Haustein will draft an initial resolution for supporting the application for the proposed New York Main Street Program; a request will be made at a future date for the Town Board to approve such. A formal resolution is required as part of the application.

Submitted by Jim Haustein