



Town of Newfield Planning Board

Meeting Minutes
September 2, 2020

Opening

The regular meeting of the Town of Newfield Planning Board was called to order by Chairman Leo Tidd at 7:09 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.

Privilege of the Floor

No items of discussion.

Approval of Minutes

The August 5, 2020 Minutes were reviewed and approved.

Newfield Hamlet Revitalization Plan (NEWHARP)

Cornell Design Connect

The Planning Board was advised that the Cornell College of Architecture, Art & Planning Design Connect Program has elected to reduce the total number of Fall 2020 projects from five to three in an effort to effectively manage the client and student needs.

Unfortunately, the Design Connect project partnering with the NEWHARP initiative has been one of the two projects which will not be supported at this time. We understand that no decision has been made as to whether this is a postponement only of the Newfield initiative or if the Planning Board will need to re-apply to be considered for a Spring 2021 project.

Gannett Foundation Grant Opportunity

The Gannett Foundation is sponsoring a “A Community Thrives” Crowdfunding and Grant Program. At present, the Planning Board does not see any possible opportunities for submitting a funding request for their activities but recommends that other Newfield community efforts consider possible funding opportunities through this grant program.

Path Forward



The Planning Board will begin looking at creating a vision and obtaining community feedback regarding the Newfield Hamlet Revitalization Plan (NEWHARP). ACTION ITEM: Jim Haustein will draft some ideas to present to the Planning Board. ACTION ITEM: Jim Haustein to contact the new management of the Covered Bridge Market and inform regarding NEWHARP and the role of the Covered Bridge Market as a stakeholder.

Open Issues

Subdivision Review Law

- The Subdivision Review Law was passed by the Town Board on August 13 and information, including the application, has been posted to the Town web site. ACTION ITEM: Jim Haustein to draft correspondence for Chairman Leo Tidd's forwarding to applicable Tompkins County departments to ensure that they are aware of this new law.

Burdge Hill/Millard Hill Solar Project

- The Planning Board is actively monitoring work on the Millard Hill/Burdge Hill Solar project. Bi-weekly reports are being provided to the Planning Board for information and review.

New Business

Site Plan Reviews

- No new Site Plan Reviews have been received or are pending.
- C&S Companies has advised that they may be considering a solar project in Newfield and has requested some additional information regarding applicable ordinances and processes. ACTION ITEM: Jim Haustein to contact C&S Energy for additional information and to provide any assistance which may be needed at this time.

Review of Building Permits

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

Miscellaneous

Newfield Climate Smart Committee

Leo Tidd will be representing the Planning Board on the Newfield Climate Smart Committee.



New York Planning Federation

Previously, the Newfield Planning Board was a member of the New York Planning Federation (NYPF) which serves as a resource for community planning activities.

ACTION ITEM: Jim Haustein to investigate possible benefits of the Newfield Planning Board joining this organization and make a recommendation to Planning Board members.

Agenda for Next Meeting

- Newfield Hamlet Revitalization Plan (NEWHARP)
- Review of Site Plan and Subdivision Review Applications Received
- Review of Building Permits
- Miscellaneous

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Jim Haustein and seconded by Randy Brown. The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Leo Tidd at 8:05 PM. The next general meeting of the Newfield Planning Board will be at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, October 7, 2020. Venue (via ZOOM or at the Town Hall) to be determined.

Submitted by Jim Haustein