



Town of Newfield Planning Board

Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2021

Opening

The regular meeting of the Town of Newfield Planning Board was called to order by Chairman Leo Tidd at 7:02 PM. The meeting was held virtually via ZOOM.

Present

Planning Board: Chairman Leo Tidd, Randy Brown, Brenda Lapp, Jim Haustein, (Not Present: Vice Chairman Jacob Marnell); Town Board: Mike Allinger; Cornell Design Connect: Anthea Fernandes.

Privilege of the Floor

No items of discussion.

Approval of Minutes

- The January 6, 2021 Minutes were reviewed and approved without modification.
- The January 13, 2021 Special Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved without modification.

Open Issues

Verizon Wireless “Millard Hill” Monopole Project Closing Discussion

- Planning Board involvement for this activity is completed at this time; the Site Plan submitted was approved and an approval memo sent. The project is awaiting final SEQR approval from the Town Board prior to issuing a special use permit.
- A radio frequency energy fact sheet was provided to the Planning Board and forwarded to the Town Board. There had been several questions raised regarding possible health and other risks. The Town Board did receive a concern from a citizen inquiring as to whether 5G technology was safe. The tower will be 4G. Any switchover to 5G is a system configuration/software modification and will not result in an infrastructure change at the tower location.

Burdge Hill/Millard Hill Solar Project Update

- Construction is paused for the winter. The Town Board is waiting until Spring to sign off on their soil and water position.



New Business

Newfield Hamlet Revitalization Plan (NEWHARP)

- The project manager for the Newfield Cornell Design Connect Project will be Anthea Fernandes. She is a second-year master's student studying regional planning at Cornell. Her background is in architecture and she has experience with various projects associated with neighborhood planning and development.
- The project team needs to be assigned to this activity. Cornell Design Connect will be having a meeting during the second week in February to serve as an informational session to introduce students to the various Design Connect projects so that they may apply to be part of a particular project. After a short review process, assignments will be made. There will be a meeting with the Planning Board after the project team is in place; an action plan will be developed at that time.

Solar Strategy

- Planning Board members have begun review of the Newfield Large-Scale Solar Energy Law (2017-4). The Planning Board will review the NYSEDA model solar law and solar laws from select New York communities as the next step. ACTION ITEM: Jim Haustein to provide sample solar laws to Planning Board members for review and comment.

Site Plan Reviews/Subdivision Applications

No new site plans or subdivision applications were received during January 2021; no site plans or subdivision applications are currently under review.

Review of Building Permits

The Planning Board had no concerns or comments on any of the Building Permits issued during January 2021.

Miscellaneous

Town of Newfield Planning Board Members

Terms for three of the Planning Board Members (Leo Tidd, Jacob Marnell and Jim Haustein) expire in May. Currently, it appears that there will be at least one vacant slot. Newfield residents are encouraged to apply for Planning Board membership using the link on the Town web site.

Agenda for Next Meeting

- Newfield Hamlet Revitalization Plan (NEWHARP)



- Solar Strategy
- Review of Site Plan and Subdivision Review Applications Received
- Review of Building Permits
- Miscellaneous

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Leo Tidd and seconded by Randy Brown. The meeting was adjourned by Chairman Leo Tidd at 7:45 PM. The next general meeting of the Newfield Planning Board will be at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, March 3, 2021. Venue (via ZOOM or at the Town Hall) to be determined.

Submitted by Jim Haustein