



Town of Newfield Planning Board

Meeting Minutes

July 7, 2021

Opening

The regular meeting of the Town of Newfield Planning Board was called to order by Chairman Leo Tidd at 7:00 PM at the Newfield Town Hall.

Present

Planning Board: Chairman Leo Tidd, Randy Brown, Justin Chandler, Brenda Lapp, Jim Haustein; Town Board: Mike Allinger; Community Members: Alan Chaffee, Angelina Masotti, Chris Masotti.

Privilege of the Floor

Alan Chaffee briefly discussed the new Historical and Activity Center; he is also interested in learning more about the Planning Board and their work.

Approval of Minutes

- The June 2, 2021 Minutes were reviewed and approved with some editorial modification.

Open Issues

Newfield Hamlet Revitalization Plan (NEWHARP)/Cornell Design Connect Status

- As part of a planned Newfield Hamlet Revitalization Plan, the Town of Newfield Planning Board worked with Cornell Design Connect to begin an initial investigation to develop a plan to encourage a walkable, attractive, and vital downtown Hamlet. The final presentation was made by Cornell at a special meeting of the Town of Newfield Planning Board on May 26.
- Leo Tidd and Jim Haustein had a Zoom call with Michael Tomlan, Professor, Director of Historic Preservation Planning at Cornell regarding a possible internship for a Cornell student to help facilitate work on the Hamlet Revitalization Plan moving forward. Tomlan is the professor in charge of Design Connect and organizes many student internship opportunities. He is willing to help us arrange an internship. The Planning Board must first provide a four-to-five sentence position description, being specific about what we envision the intern doing (for example, assisting with public outreach and assisting in writing an amendment to the Comprehensive Plan). **ACTION ITEM:** Leo Tidd to



- provide draft position description and distribute for comment among the Planning Board members.
- Leo Tidd and Jim Haustein met with with Kevin Berggren, Newfield Highway Department Superintendent, to review the Design Connect report to ensure alignment between the Planning Board and Highway Department regarding the Main Street/Bridge Street/Shaffer Road intersection. Kevin Berggren took an action item to work with a local engineering company to investigate the possibility of installing additional stop signs and crosswalks at the intersection. This is a possible “quick hit” for the NEWHARP initiative and will help ensure safety in the intersection and hopefully slow down traffic.
 - Leo Tidd and Jim Haustein met with the owners and operators of the Covered Bridge Market to address concerns regarding the Newfield Hamlet Revitalization Plan. ACTION ITEM: Jim Haustein to maintain a list of “very interested community members” who he will personally email regarding issues of interest (such as surveys, community meetings, etc.) to ensure that these stakeholders are aware of activities related to the Plan and be provided opportunity to provide their input.

Solar Law

Town Board members reviewed the Newfield Large-Scale Solar Energy Law (2017-4) drafted by the Planning Board and comments and suggestions have been incorporated into the document. ACTION ITEM: Jim Haustein to perform additional editorial review and forward to Leo Tidd for dissemination to the Town Board.

New Business

Site Plan Reviews/Subdivision Applications

No new site plans or subdivision applications were received during June 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 June 2021.

Casella Street View

A resident emailed the Planning Board regarding their dissatisfaction with the Casella street view at the intersection of Millard Hill Road and Route 13. The Planning Board reviewed the email and determined that (1) it is not evident that any town laws are being



broken by Casella and (2) that it is not within the scope of the Planning Board to engage in individual concerns between residents or residents and local businesses. Brenda Lapp noted that visual screening or a wall at Casella's property could have potential line-of-sight concerns for the Millard Hill Road / Van Ostrand Road / Route 13 intersection. ACTION ITEM: Leo Tidd to respond to the email received with the determination made by the Planning Board as indicated above.

Miscellaneous

Required Training

Jim Haustein previously provided Planning Board members some suggested websites with training that may be used to complete the four hours of required training for Planning Board members.

Agenda for Next Meeting

- Review of Site Plan and Subdivision Review Applications Received
- Review of Building Permits
- Newfield Hamlet Revitalization Plan
- Proposed Revisions to Solar Law
- 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 8:14 PM. The next general meeting of the Newfield Planning Board will be at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, August 4, 2021 at the Town Hall.

Submitted by Jim Haustein