



Town of Newfield Planning Board

Meeting Minutes
August 4, 2021

Opening

The regular meeting of the Town of Newfield Planning Board was called to order by Chairman Leo Tidd at 7:01 PM at the Newfield Town Hall.

Present

Planning Board: Chairman Leo Tidd, Randy Brown, Brenda Lapp, Jim Haustein, (Not present: Justin Chandler); Town Board: Mike Allinger.

Privilege of the Floor

No items of discussion.

Approval of Minutes

- The July 7, 2021 Minutes were reviewed and approved with some editorial modification.

Open Issues

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

- Leo Tidd and Jim Haustein previously 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. The Planning Board must first provide a four-to-five sentence position description, being specific about what we envision the intern's responsibilities will be. **ACTION ITEM:** Leo Tidd to provide draft position description and distribute for comment among the Planning Board members.
- Leo Tidd and Jim Haustein previously met 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. **ACTION ITEM:** Jim Haustein to follow-up with Kevin Berggren regarding status of his discussions with a local engineering company to investigate the possibility of installing additional stop signs and crosswalks at the intersection.



Solar Law

Town Board members previously 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 and forwarded to the Town Board by Chairman Leo Tidd on July 22. The Town Board is planning to discuss such at an upcoming meeting.

ACTION ITEM: Jim Haustein to begin work on a PowerPoint presentation on the law to be used at the future Public Hearing required prior to Town Board adoption.

New Business

Site Plan Reviews/Subdivision Applications

No new site plans or subdivision applications were received during July 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 July 2021. Of note is Building Permit 21-3277-2 for the Verizon Cell Tower on West Danby Road.

Casella Street View

A resident previously emailed the Planning Board regarding their dissatisfaction with the Casella street view at the intersection of Millard Hill Road and Route 13. Leo Tidd responded to the email received with the determination made by the Planning Board (1) that 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.

Miscellaneous

NY Open Meetings Law

Jim Haustein briefly discussed salient points of an on-line webinar he recently attended detailing the New York Open Meetings Law. The webinar was hosted by the NYS Committee on Open Government.

Right to Farm Law

There is renewed interest in the Planning Board to consider the notion of a “Right to Farm” law for Newfield. **ACTION ITEM:** Jim Haustein to perform an internet search for



Right to Farm laws for other New York communities and post this and any other relevant documentation onto Teams for discussion at future Planning Board meetings.

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
- Right to Farm
- 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 7:40 PM. The next general meeting of the Newfield Planning Board will be at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, September 1, 2021 at the Town Hall. The meeting will also be hosted on Zoom.

Submitted by Jim Haustein