

## Elmore Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

June 19, 2013

Present: Sue Cano, Nancy Allen, Len Plant, Shelia Rysz.

Attending: Taylor Foster, CFM, Regional Planner, Lamoille County Planning Commission, Whit Hartt, Selectboard Representative.

Meeting was called to order at 6.00 p.m.

Approval of the minutes of the meeting of May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2013 moved by Len, seconded by Sue. All in favor, and minutes approved.

Agenda: Taylor Foster (LCPC) evaluation of the 2013 – 18 Elmore Town Plan.

Letter May 22<sup>nd</sup> 2013 from Tarrant, Gillies, Merriman & Richardson.

Comments at hearing concerning 2013 – 18 Town Plan.

Documents received from Linda Leahy.

Formulation of “to do” list

Taylor informed the Commission that the state requires consultation with towns on their Town Plans twice in an eight year period by statute, and that the Agency of Commerce and Community Development were encouraging that this be undertaken at this time. The purpose was to determine steps required after the adoption of the Town Plan, and determine what help might be required from the Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC).

A review of our Town Plan had identified strengths (the natural resources section), weaknesses (a focus on primary schooling only), and opportunities (improving land use districting to better articulate commercial development objectives). Taylor believes that more could be done by way of projecting where the town wants to be in the future, and that the Land Use section of the Town Plan, which affects zoning by-laws, could be more oriented in this way.

Taylor was asked to provide copies of existing by-laws that promoted development, which she undertook to do. Whit indicated that the EPC could, for example, talk to towns that do have such by-laws to see how these had been developed.

Taylor advised that in July Municipal Planning Grants would be announced, for assistance with zoning by-law development. Our interest in applying was noted, and that the timing of the work involved would be a factor.

In general terms, Taylor was advised that the EPC would be interested in getting help for the Fluvial Erosion Plan, information on availability of grants to help with the inclusion of bicycling lanes on the widening of Hwy. 12 in the area, training for EPC members, and receiving updates from the LCPC on new requirements as introduced by the State.

Taylor advised that the State had specific guidelines that Town Plan were required to meet. Normally these would be known to the LCPC person working with the towns on the development of the plan, and would ensure compliance.

Taylor left the EPC with a printout of recent State guidelines as they related to the 2013 -18 Elmore Town Plan..

Returning to the regular meeting:

The audio of the Town Plan Hearing will be filed on the computer at the Town Clerks office, and would be available to the public there.

Comments made at the Town Plan hearing were noted. A motion to replace "blessed" with "fortunate to have" on page 13 of the proposed Town Plan, and forward it to the Selectboard was made by Sue, seconded by Shelia, and passed by unanimous vote. The selectboard is to consider the Town Plan at their August 14<sup>th</sup> meeting, to which Shelia, Nancy and Len are expected to attend.

Shelia will purchase some office supplies, and a work date will be set in July for EPC members to transfer its files to the new office.

Note was made of the News and Citizen coverage of the May Town Plan hearing.

The only correspondence received was from Taylor Foster of LCPC requesting agreement to designate the park next to the Town Hall as a village center, which was agreed.

The "to do" list agreed comprised: laying out maps received from Linda Leahy, attendance at the August 14 selectboard meeting, prompting the selectboard to apply for the zoning-by-law review grant, and setting a July workday to organize EPC paperwork.

Motion to adjourn made by Shelia, seconded by Len, all were in favor and meeting adjourned at 7.30 p.m.