

Town of Corinth
Planning Commission Meeting
Approved Minutes – January 4, 2024

Members in attendance: Kerry DeWolfe (Chair), Russ Pazdro, Anne Margolis, and Kim Remillard. Members of the Public in attendance: Andrew Alexander, Michael Tagliavia and James Guyer.

The meeting was called to order at 7:17

Changes to the Agenda: None

Public Comment: Following is a summary of the comments. Mr. Tagliavia said that Corinth was chartered in 1764 and has never had zoning and questioned why Corinth needs it now. He asked what the purpose was for the Municipal Planning Grant. Mr. Alexander asked about the process for amending meeting minutes. He said that the PC had called him a liar in the October minutes and that the amendments to the October minutes in the November minutes did not correct the situation. He said he felt like he was “crashing a party” when he attended PC meetings. Mr. Guyer expressed the concern that some members of the PC have not attended a meeting in six months. He asked how the notice requirement of the proposed change in the PC Rules of Procedure would work.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the November meeting were reviewed. RP made a motion to approve the minutes. KR seconded. During the discussion, when asked whether any of their comments had been mischaracterized, the members of the public did not have any objections. The motion passed, the minutes were approved.

Correspondence: The Chair received an email Notice from Newbury regarding its Town Plan. She will forward same to members.

New Business: The Chair proposed an amendment to the PC Rules of Procedure. There was a discussion about the need for the members to review the rules and consider how they might need to be amended. The Chair will investigate best practices in this area. The motion proposed in accordance with the PC Rules of Procedure was tabled for consideration at a future meeting.

Old Business: The Chair advised the PC that she had met with Holly Groschner from the selectboard regarding the revised Dilapidated Building Ordinance that the PC had submitted to the Selectboard in June. The Selectboard proposed a modest change in the existing ordinance, primarily increasing the fines. The Chair

presented the PC with a revision of the existing ordinance that was likely to be accepted by the Selectboard. The members were concerned that the minor revisions to the existing ordinance did not address the concerns of the community that had guided the PC's work revising the ordinance and that the comprehensive revisions that did address these concerns appear not to have been seriously considered. KD made the following motion: The proposed revision, a copy of which is attached to these minutes and incorporated by reference herein, be adopted by the PC and be presented to the Selectboard for its consideration. And, that the revisions submitted in June be held in abeyance. RP seconded the motion. After further discussion, a vote was taken and the motion passed.

The Chair reviewed the recent Vermont Supreme Court decisions involving local planning ordinances in Newbury and Pawlet.

The PC did not receive the Municipal Planning Grant that it applied for in October. The Chair informed the PC that she had spoken to Kevin Geiger from TRORC about services that the organization may be willing to provide going forward. TRORC agreed to lead the community meeting, *pro bono*, that has long been anticipated to discuss the survey, discuss options for land use regulations, and obtain community input about where we go from here. TRORC was available to do this on February 13, 2024, at 7:00. KD made motion as follows: 1) The PC will hold a community meeting on February 13, 2024, to be led by TRORC to discuss the survey, options for land use regulations and gather community input on the next step; and 2) the Chair is authorized to Notice this meeting in the JO and elsewhere and to work with TRORC on organizing the event. The motion was seconded by AM and passed unanimously.

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:29 pm per motion of KD, seconded by RP.

NEXT MEETING: February 1, 2024, 7:00 pm.