

Barre City Planning Commission

June 13, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Present: David Sichel (Chair), Becky Wigg (Vice Chair), Joe Reil (Secretary), Rosemary Averill, Caitlin Corkins, Raylene Meunier

Absent: None

Staff: Janet Shatney (Director of Planning, Permitting & Assessing)

Visitors: None

1. Call to Order.

5:30pm.

2. Adjustments to the Agenda.

Sichel suggested moving Old Business to after New Business to make better use of guests' time.

3. Approval of Minutes.

a. May 9, 2024.

Wigg moves to approve, Averill seconds, unanimous in favor.

4. Public comment (for something not on the agenda).

None.

5. Old Business.

Shatney asked City Manager Storellicastro to schedule the public hearing for the Interim Zoning Changes, scheduled for the July 16 meeting of the City Council.

A public hearing on changes to flood hazard rules in City Ordinance, at a Planning Commission is also required, to be warned for our next meeting.

a. Review of Section 2 of the Municipal Plan - Strategic Plan

Review of the Economic Development portion of the City's Strategic Plan. The Key Points and Issues and Challenges were discussed, suggesting further thought about how these have changed or stayed the same and how we may reconsider them in the future.

6. New Business.

a. Barre City Infill Study

Shatney introduced Brian Voigt from Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) for an Infill Study Presentation (previously given to City Council) looking at development potential and presentation is a starting point.

Presentation included contributions from Barre City Staff, the Barre Housing Taskforce, and the CVRPC itself. The objective is to support development of housing to mitigate flood losses, prioritizing areas already served by City infrastructure.

Deliverable 1 is an inventory vacant municipally-owned properties.

Deliverable 2 is a look at subdivision opportunities under current Zoning and the HOME Act.

Both enabling and limiting factors were considered to determine eligibility. An example parcel was shown, demonstrating how these factors impacted potential development.

A summary of available development in various properties was provided and discussed, along with some example parcels to explain the process.

Some discussion followed, about how to use the data and considering other factors that may impact development. There will be further discussion to come.

b. Hazard Mitigation Plan: Public Meeting for Mitigation Actions Ranking

Shatney introduced Keith Cubbon, CVRPC's Emergency Management Planner, to give the presentation on updated Local Hazard Mitigation Plan.

City plan needs to align with the State plan and meet STAPLEE (Social, Technical, Administrative, Political, Legal, Economic, and Environmental) criteria. Purpose of this presentation is to review the mitigation standards within the STAPLEE framework.

Review will require each disaster type and the mitigation actions be ranked. There was some discussion about the ranking and who to approach it. Consensus was to have a sub-committee of the Planning Commission review and create initial rankings for the full Planning Commission to review. Averill, Corkins, and Reil volunteered to form the sub-committee to meet within the next few weeks.

7. Confirm Date of Next Meeting.

a. July 11, 2024.

8. Staff Updates.

Many property sales, not slowing down. Monthly table shows high costs.

Assessors working on draft of the abstract grand Have made about \$2.5 million in changes to grand list. Most properties are still listed at 2006 values.

9. Round Table.

None.

10. Adjourn.

07:00pm, **Corkins moves to adjourn, Reil seconds, unanimous in favor.**