



TOWN OF RANDOLPH, VERMONT

Zoning and Planning Office

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DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Randolph Town Hall

Present: Members: Miles Hooper, Sonny Holt, Perry Armstrong, Camden Walters (Paul Rae absent).

Municipal Staff: Trevor Lashua (arrived after the meeting began)

Other Attendees: Jeff Grout, Michael Binder, Joan Allen, Brooke Dingledine, Kathy Leonard

Mr. Holt called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

1. **Public Comment** – there was no one from the public with general comments.
2. **Agenda Approved** – Camden motioned to approve the agenda. Miles seconded; the proposed agenda was approved.
3. **Approval of Minutes** – Camden motioned to approve the October 5, 2021 minutes. The minutes were approved by all PC members who attended the meeting.

4. New Business

a. Discussion on Slope Issues Related to the Solar Array Project on Davis Road in East Randolph.

Sonny introduced the letter from Michael Binder and Joan Allen by reading their letter as found in attachment 1. Sonny then described some of the Town Plan with regard to solar projects (Chapter 2. Page 10, Policies, letter g). He then read Chapter 6 Page 29, Section 248). He went on to say Randolph's Planning Commission and Selectboard have designated 2 locations as preferred sites. One is the Davis Road Project to be constructed by Norwich Solar Technologies and that both of those sites meet the policy guidance contained in the Town Plan. Brooke Dingledine spoke about the PUC processes and the recent solar proposals in Bennington. There was discussion about the steep slopes. Including a discussion on whether or not to rescind the letter to Norwich solar. Perry commented that he would like to leave the letter as is and leave it up to Norwich to prove the slope is not a problem. The conversation ended with Perry suggesting they consult town's legal counsel to see what their position is. Members all agreed.

b. Discussion on Whether the Town Needs and Enhanced Energy Plan IAW Act 174.

Members discussed whether or not an enhanced energy plan was needed now and prior discussions on such energy planning.

c. Discussion on the viability of the Planning Commission's 7-member Enhanced Energy Planning (EEP) Subcommittee.

Members discussed whether the EEP was still needed. Given the presence of other town committees and the completion of original task members agreed that the EEP was not still needed. Miles moved to formally disband the EEP subcommittee. Camden seconded. Motion passed 4-0.

d. Recommendations to Fill the Two Vacancies on the Planning Commission.

Members discussed candidates, including Jeff Grout, who was in attendance.

5. Other business: None

6. Adjournment: The Planning Commission adjourned.

Respectfully submitted: Kimberly Grout

Approved: