

APPROVED

HUNTINGTON PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes October 10, 2016

PRESENT: Everett Marshall, Terry Ryan, Joe Segale

ABSENT: Mark Smith, Shayne Jaquith

OTHERS PRESENT:

MINUTES: Heidi Racht



- 7 pm Public Comment
 - Minutes of September 26, 2016
 - Mail
 - Budget
- 7:30 Energy Plan - timeline, action
- 8 pm Regulations discussion
- 8:45 Member Business
- 8:55 Adjourn

RECEIVED 
FOR RECORD
DATE November 15, 2016

The meeting began at 7:03 pm; Everett Marshall chaired the meeting.

Public Comment: No public was present.

Minutes: Joe Segale moved to approve the minutes of September 26, 2016; Everett Marshall, seconded. Approved unanimously with minor changes.

Mail: Postcard from VLCT about Planning and Zoning Forum on November 2 in Montpelier. No one was interested in attending this event.

Budget: Reviewed draft sent to the HPC from Heidi Racht. After some discussion, the Commission decided to recommend \$15 per hour for clerk/administrative services. Discussion included hourly rate versus stipend. Racht talked about what she does for the HPC: agenda prep, posting after consultation with chair; minutes; other administrative tasks as required. She noted that she does more than take the minutes of the meeting and send to the Commission. Also, no increase was given in 2016-2017.

MOTION: Terry Ryan moved and Joe Segale second: The hourly rate recommendation is \$15 per hour for HPC clerk and similar positions. Approved with Ryan voting against; he stated he thought it should be a stipend per meeting.

Along a similar line of discussion, the Commission talked about stipends for Commission members and DRB members, noting that the Selectboard members, who are elected, get a stipend. Racht responded that there had been a lot of discussion on the clerks' listserv about this topic: range of payment from zero to an hourly rate in a variety of town sizes. No conclusions were drawn.

Discussion about using money for purchased services implementation tasks, such as a Town Map or work on other topics like the Village plans. The Commission decided to request \$3000 under purchased services in the budget for activities to take place after the regulations are complete.

Motion: Everett Marshall moved to approve the draft 2017-2018 budget as discussed to be submitted to the Selectboard; second by Terry Ryan. Approved unanimously.

Discussion of Energy Plan, from September 26, 2016 meeting

The Commission discussed its meeting with Melanie Needle of CCRPC. Segale said that he thought the CCRPC was just trying to educate the Commission since the standards have just been published. Ryan said that there were some problems with horsepower in the state regs and Segale noted that the CCRPC was asking for a lot of data. HE asked if the Commission had the capacity for provide all this information and generate a lot of data.

Marshall referenced the Town Plan. Segale stated that the standards “are being determined by which our plan will be judged.” Marshall then asked if the town could talk in generalities like not fragmenting forests. Segale noted that the Commission had to decided if “we, as a commission, want to comment on the new standards.” The town’s effort is being done in good faith and thinking comprehensively to reduce energy and use alterative fuels should be also part of the plan.

Ryan then read from the tasks from the Town Plan. Marshall explained that this section had been drafted by Julia Austin, who works in alterative energy. Marshall offered to meet with Needle about the energy standards. One question he will ask, “Is our Town Plan too general?”

The discussion the went on to what the town is doing for the municipal buildings as there wasn’t a lot of information in the Town Plan. Marshall pointed out that there is a lot on facilities throughout the document: pages 30-33, 67 and 42, for example.

He then asked, “Does a town like Huntington need to create a new document or can it use CCRPC’s energy plan?”

Racht then mentioned that the Huntington School Board was bringing a bond before the voters on November 8 to update the HVAC system at the school. The school is using the original boiler. The Board has done extensive research and had well-attended public meetings where the taxpayers were encouraged to participate. The new system will get away from fossil fuels and will have a ground source system.

Regulations: Marshall reported that Shayne Jaquith had heard back from Gretchen Alexander, who will be working on the river corridor revisions. A timeline for including Arrowwood’s work is being developed. Comments were made on the village river corridor. He suggested that he and Jaquith meet with Alexander.

The Commission briefly touched on the regulations and decided to wait for more in-depth discussion after Regina Mahony turned in her comments.

Member Business: None

Adjournment: Joe Segale moved to adjourn; Terry Ryan second. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

Draft Minutes on town website: October 16, 2016

Unapproved Minutes to HPC: October 16, 2016

Minutes Approved: November 14, 2016

Minutes submitted to Town Clerk: November 15, 2106