

TOWN OF BENNINGTON  
PLANNING BOARD  
Minutes of the Meeting- October 14, 2013

Present        David McKenzie, Chairman  
                 Christopher Maple, Vice Chairman  
                 Sam Cohen  
                 Jeffrey Rose, Ex Officio  
                 Peter Martel

Chairman McKenzie called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

The minutes of the September 9, 2013 meeting were reviewed and accepted with amendments.

Chairman McKenzie presented the 2014 budget request for the Planning Board. Sam Cohen made a motion not to include the RPC payment in the budget request. There was no second to the motion. Christopher Maple offered to look into what benefits the Southwest Regional Planning offers to the Town. Chairman McKenzie made a motion to submit the budget request with no changes from the previous year. Jeffrey Rose seconded the motion. David McKenzie, Jeffrey Rose, Peter Martel, and Christopher Maple were in favor of the motion. Sam Cohen voted against the motion. The budget request will be submitted with no changes.

The Board reviewed the request to sign the mylars for the Highland Inn Condo project. The Condo Documents have been submitted to Town Counsel, corrected and approved. It was determined that the Board will need a new mylar with a signature block added. Chairman McKenzie will contact Mr. Bosse to let him know that the site plan has been signed and recorded. If the second page of the mylar needs to be signed also, a new one must be provided with the appropriate signature block. It was noted that the Code Enforcement Officer needs page one and two of the mylar.

In new business, the Board reviewed a letter from the administrator pertaining to the Harris reclamation bond. Mr. Harris provided \$50,000 for an escrow fund that the Town put in a CD. Mr. Harris has asked for the interest that has accumulated. The previous Chairman has responded to Mr. Harris stating that the interest of the escrow fund was to be held by the Town. If funds were found to be in excess, the Town would return any excess. There would be a need to hire an expert to accurately assess the reclamation fee. The applicant would pay this cost. At this time there has been no reclamation work done.

The Administrator has requested that the Planning Board review all current excavation permits. The three permits current are Francetown Sand and Gravel, DH Hardwick, and Harris Gravel. Chairman McKenzie will review the number of acres designated to the excavation permits.

The Board discussed the possibility of a Poultry Ordinance. Currently the raising of poultry is not allowed in any other district than the rural/agricultural district. Limitations such as number of birds and set-back requirements were discussed as well as a stipulation that the poultry would be raised for the resident's own consumption. The Planning Board would like the public's feedback

on the ordinance. Chairman McKenzie will write an invitation for public input to be included in the Town Newsletter.

There being no other business at hand, the meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by

Debra Belcher  
Planning Board Recording Secretary