

PLANNING & ZONING COMMISSION



115 Main Street
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January 11, 2023
Meeting Minutes

1. **Call to Order:** Regular Meeting of the Planning and Zoning Commission called to order at 7:02 PM.
2. **Members Present:** Scott Davidson, Pat Wray, Steve Stephanski, D. Nieminen
Members Absent: Joe Zonfrilli & Alternates Tom Sweet, Brian Muschiano & Juliet Hodge
3. **Approval of Minutes:** Motion to approve November Minutes made and seconded by S. Stephanski/P. Wray *MOTION PASSED Unanimously.*
4. **New Business:**

2023-2024 Budget – J. Guskowski took the lead and present the proposed budget. The commission was in agreement on the increase to the Secretaries salary, reducing legal expenses, increase legal notice expenses, removing POCD expenses. The commission has asked for a meeting with the BOS to discuss the breakout of the Planners expenses between the town and this commission for further understanding. The commission agreed to have S. Davidson represent the commission in the meeting and asked the secretary to arrange the meeting. A motion was made and seconded (P. Wray/D. Nieminen) to table an approval until after the meeting with the Selectmen. *MOTION PASSED Unanimously.*

Election of Officers – P. Wray nominated S. Davidson for Chairman, seconded by D. Nieminen, Commission voted unanimously in favor of S. Davidson remaining Chairman. D. Nieminen nominated S. Stephanski for Vice Chairman, seconded by P. Wray, Commission voted unanimously in favor of S. Stephanski remaining Vice Chairman. S. Davidson nominated D. Nieminen for Secretary, P. Wray seconded, Commission voted unanimously in favor of D. Nieminen to remain Secretary.

5. **Old Business:**

Zoning Regulation Update / Discussion

Updated copies of the regulations, sections 8-10 (outline) were distributed for further review and discussion. General explanation and discussion on the sections noted took place with special attention to administrative zoning permits. The commission decided to eliminate since it is covered by the Building & Land Use Office and ZEO. The commission is working towards a possible Public Hearing for the new updated regulations to be held in April or May of this year.

Cannabis Moratorium / Proposed Regulations

J. Guskowski presented the proposed final draft for further discussion. The commission agreed to make a changes to section 8.16.3 J. Guskowski answered more specific question around cultivators and licensing. A motion was made and seconded (D. Nieminen/P. Wray) to accept the application for the Proposed Cannabis Regulation and schedule Public Hearing for March 8, 2023. *MOTION PASSED Unanimously.* A Sample Agenda for the Public Hearing will be reviewed and approved at the February meeting of the commission. The hearing and proposed regulations will be posted on the town website main page and Planning & Zoning page, Facebook, in the Town Clerks office, at the Post Office, and on the town billboard & Text My Gov text day prior to the hearing. The information will be included

in the February and March newsletters and a specific email will be sent to newsletter recipients closer to the actual hearing. The required legal notices are to include the url to the proposed regulations on the town website.

The full meeting can be viewed on the Town of Voluntown YouTube page at:


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5zgIEAU61s&list=PL54LtPocTyHARCMDNnxnW9smj8pHzk6Er&index=23&t=2s>

6. **Correspondence:** None
7. **ZEO Report:** P. Zvingilas was present via Zoom and discussed 2 active violations on Congdon and Ekonk Hill Rds.
10. **Adjourn:** Motion made and seconded by (S. Stephanski/P. Wray) to adjourn, with no objection, meeting adjourned at 8:06 PM

Approved:



Chairman/Authorized Signer



Date