

**Town of Vershire Planning Commission Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 7:00pm at Vershire Town Center building.**

**There will be a remote option for this meeting via Zoom or by phone.**

**Attendance:** Gregory Wilson-chair, Eleanor Zue-vice chair, Seann Cram, Gretchen Harvey-secretary, Meghan Asbury-TRORC, and Alex Meyer- Mountain School.

**Call to Order:** G. Wilson called the meeting to order at 7:03pm

**Agenda Review & Modifications:** None at this time.

**Public & Staff Comments:** None at this time.

**Approval of Minutes:** G. Wilson moved to approve the regular meeting minutes from 5/10/23 and the Topic Forum minutes of 5/24/23. E. Zue seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**New Business: Planning with Meghan Asbury-TRORC**

M. Asbury is here tonight to discuss the scope of the work plan for revising Vershire's Town Plan as stipulated by the municipal planning grant awarded by TRORC. The work will need to be completed by January 2025.

M. Asbury shared a PDF with the PCs and specifically directed their attention to *Attachment A*, which stipulates a recommended schedule or work plan. The title of the PDF is ***State of Vermont Grant Agreement, Part 1 Grant Award detail*** and will be shared with all PCs via email. The PC agreed that focusing first on the Town Plan sections that have already been discussed in recent topic forums would make the most sense.

M. Asbury would like to return to Vershire every other month to discuss specific recommendations for revisions. All agreed that the August 9th meeting would focus on the topics of: economic development, housing, and education. The PC will discuss a start time for this meeting in July and consider starting earlier and having a working dinner that night. She also will plan on tabling at a Vershire event later this year or next year as stipulated in the work plan. She explained that the grant covers required tables, figures, and maps, but there are extra costs associated with other maps, or tables that may be created upon request by the town.

**HOMEWORK:** G. Harvey will send a message to all Planning Commissioners and ask them to mark up the Town Plan sections **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, HOUSING, & EDUCATION**. M. Asbury will go through and mark up each of these sections as well and note which state standards have changed. Planning Commissioners also need to mark up (track their changes if they have Microsoft Word) by the August 9th meeting so that process of making revisions can move forward.

**Preparing for Transportation Special Topic Meeting 6/28:** G. Wilson has invited A. Lyford-Highway Superintendent to attend. A representative from the Energy Committee also needs to be invited to discuss the committee's transportation initiatives and goals. It is also important to read/discuss the nonprofit in Vermont concerned about the creation of private airstrips in rural communities. <https://www.savetairspace.org/>  
G. Wilson will promote the forum.

G. Wilson asked G. Harvey to write a letter to the various committee chairs and invite them to offer input and revisions in the sections of the Town Plan that most impact their committee work, goals and activities.

**Recommendations received for topic discussions/new ordinances to consider:**  
A trash ordinance. This discussion topic would fit well under the “Community” (Health) topic forum scheduled for October—this would be an entirely new category for Vershire’s town plan. . The drafting of new ordinances would most likely follow the revision of the town plan.

**Old Business: Input needed about Town Facilities, Services, and Emergency Services for this section of the Town Plan.** As with the transportation topic, issue an invitation to offer input to the Emergency Services committee or those who were members when it was created in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Irene.

**Announcements:**

[Help ANR Develop the Municipal Climate Change Vulnerability Index | Vermont League of Cities and Towns](#)

**West Fairlee's draft town plan is available to view online FYI at:**

<https://westfairleevt.gov/selectboard>

**Adjourn:** G. Wilson moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:19pm. S. Cram seconded. The motion passed unanimously.