

July 24, 2013

Special Meeting

7:30, Upper Level Mtg Room

Members Present: Ms. Roberts, Mr. Rimsky,

Members Absent: Ms. Gager, Mr. Frank, Ms. Jahnke,

Alternates Present: Mr. Carey

Alternates Absent: Mr. Osborne, Ms. Bishop-Wrabel

Staff Present: Ms. Hill

Also Present: Mr. Bedini, Mr. Looney, Planning Consultant

Ms. Roberts, Chair called the Meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

Seated: Ms. Roberts, Mr. Rimsky, Mr. Carey, Alt.

Plan of Conservation and Development

Revised Drafts:

Mr. Looney addressed the issues included in an email dated 7/24/2013, to him from Mr. Frank. He stated that the text in the POCD would be revised to inform the public that this is not a whole new document but an update, cross-references to the appendix would be included and action items should be specific and succinct as well as give details of why particular actions are recommended.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding how the designation of a village district works and the advantages and disadvantages of this designation. Mr. Rimsky questioned whether the designation of a village district would help meet the goals of the Town.

Ms. Roberts stated that the POCD must clearly define what is meant for "Village District."

There was a discussion regarding what groups/commissions should be part of a focus group.

There was a brief discussion regarding demographic statistics.

Ms. Hill feels that it is very important that the Board of Finance backs the POCD in order to accomplish the goals of the Town.

Mr. Looney agrees with Ms. Hill and stated that the POCD should state specific recommendations in order to get support for funding.

There was a brief discussion regarding a part time economic development employee for the town.

Mr. Looney stated that he would like to get the final document together which would allow the Planning Commission to move forward. He stated that in the next week to ten days he would like to gather any additional edits and comments and put together the final draft. He noted that he would address Mr. Frank's comments and the commissioners should have time before the regularly scheduled Planning Commission Meeting on August 6 to review the document. Mr. Looney said

that he would contact Ms. Gager to discuss moving forward with the public outreach process.

Mr. Bedini noted that the capacity of the middle/high school building did not seem correct in the POCD draft. Mr. Looney responded that he would follow up on this issue with the Board of Education. Mr. Bedini questioned how the percentage of the school budget was determined.

Mr. Bedini suggested that if a part time economic planner is going to be recommended for the town in the revised POCD then the reasons as to how this will benefit the town should be stated in the document.

There was a brief discussion regarding how up to date the information regarding the schools will be in the revised POCD.

Adjournment

Motion:

to adjourn by Mr. Rimsky.

Ms. Roberts adjourned the meeting at 8:40 pm.

SUBMITTED SUBJECT TO APPROVAL:

Shelley White, Land Use Clerk