

City of Newport
Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2023

Members Present: John Monette, Denis Chenette, Carole O' Connell and Kevin Mead

Members Absent: none

Others Present: Zoning Administrator Frank Cheney, Place Sense Consultant Brandy Saxton, Mayor Beth Barnes, and Gina Cirelli

- **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Chair Monette at 6:40 p.m.
- **Approval of Minutes:** Denis Chenette made a motion to approve the minutes of April 4, 2023, Carole O' Connell seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.
- **Public Comment:** none
- **Agenda Item: Newport City Bylaw Modernization Project with Place Sense Consultant Brandy Saxton**
 1. The commission reviewed the components of the Housing Bill currently working its way through the Vermont Legislature and discussed how the updated statutes would need to be incorporated into the Newport City Zoning Bylaws.
 2. Fine tuning of the proposed Zoning District Boundary Lines continued with a parcel specific evaluation of dimensional, density and use requirements that would result from the proposed redistricting. The Planning Commission completed a full review of all zoning districts with Brandy Saxton making updates to the proposed bylaws as indicated.
 3. The commission discussed their desire to continue making a concerted effort to promote public involvement throughout the bylaw modernization process. Members agreed that a community forum at the end of May would be beneficial. Logistics regarding this event should be discussed at the next meeting.
- **Old Business:** Chair Monette opened a final review of the procedural aspects of T24 chapter 117 VSA 4415 the Vermont Interim Bylaw Amendment Statute. Bylaw consultant Brandy Saxton explained in detail where statutory authority is derived from and how it has been practically utilized by other Vermont municipalities. It was the consensus of all present that this process has been completed within the parameters laid out in Vermont Statute.
- **New Business:** No new business was introduced.
- **Draft Agenda:** The next regularly scheduled Planning Commission Meeting will be held on April 18, 2023, at 6:30p.m. The Agenda will be like tonight's Agenda with work to continue with The Bylaw Modernization Project.
- **Adjourn:** Carole O' Connell made a motion to adjourn, Kevin Mead seconded the motion and the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Approved this 18 day of April 2023.

Chair, Newport City Planning Commission