

City of Newport
Planning Commission Meeting Minutes
August 1, 2023

DRAFT

Members Present: Chair John Monette, Denis Chenette, and Gina Cirelli

Members Absent: Kevin Mead, Carole O'Connell

Others Present: Zoning Administrator Frank Cheney, PlaceSense Consultant Brandy Saxton, Interim City Manager Karen Geraghty and VELCO Representative Gunner Tuttle.

- **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Chair Monette at 6:37 p.m.
- **Approval of Minutes:** Denis Chenette made a motion to approve the minutes of July 20, 2023, Gina Cirelli seconded the motion, and the minutes were approved.
- **Public Comment:** none
- Chair Monette requested that the commission consider a waiver request from VELCO prior to the scheduled work on the Bylaw Modernization Project. Planning Commission members agreed to adjust the order of the publicly posted agenda.
- Regarding a Petition of Vermont Transco LLC, and Vermont Electric Power Company, Inc. (collectively VELCO) for a Certificate of Public Good pursuant 30 V.S.A. 248(j) authorizing upgrades to VELCO's existing substation located in Newport, Vermont. The Planning Commission with technical assistance from Gunner Tuttle (VELCO) reviewed the "Project" description of the proposed upgrades. Following some discussion Gina Cirelli made a motion to waive the 45 day advanced notice requirement, as permitted by 30 V.S.A 248(f). Denis Chenette seconded the motion, and it was passed unanimously.
- Brandy Saxton introduced a proposed draft of Chapter 1 General Regulations for the Planning Commissions consideration. A line item review of the entire chapter was completed. In consideration of the extent of discussion and analysis regarding multiple sections of the proposed regulation, it was agreed upon that these items would be the center the commissions focus at the August 15, 2023, meeting.
- Denis Chenette made a motion to recess the meeting in order for the commission to ascertain the outcome of a Special Mayoral Election held today in Newport, Gina Cirelli seconded the motion and the commission recessed at 8:00p.m. The meeting was reopened at 8:15 p.m. by Chair Monette
- **Old Business:** Frank Cheney ZA inquired about the status of the next PC meeting, which is scheduled two days ahead of Brandy Saxton's presentation to the local chapter of the Vermont Real Estate Association regarding Newport's Draft Unified Regulations. The commission will hold its regularly schedule meeting on August 15, 2023.
- **New Business: None**
- **Adjourn:** Denis Chenette made a motion to adjourn, Gina Cirelli seconded, the meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Approved this ___ day of _____, 2023.

_____ Chair, Newport City Planning Commission