

BARRE TOWN PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

The Town of Barre Planning Commission held its regular meeting on **Wednesday, April 20, 2016** beginning at **7:00** p.m. at the **Municipal Building**, Lower Websterville, to consider the following:

Members Present:

Cedric Sanborn	Charlie Thygesen
John Hameline	George Clain
Chris Violette	Claire Duke
Debra Pierce	

Others Present:

Regan Howard	Val Vallerand
Jenna Howard	Kathy Paquet
Charles LePage	Deborah LePage
Kathy Brouillette	

1) **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA**

Charles & Deborah LePage have a conceptual to present

On a motion by Hameline, seconded by Violette, the Planning Commission voted to accept the addition of the conceptual to the agenda.

Clain would like to discuss S241

On a motion by Clain seconded by Sanborn, the Planning Commission voted to accept the addition of the S241 discussion.

2) **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

On a motion by Hameline, seconded by Pierce, the Planning Commission voted to approve the minutes from January 20, 2016

On a motion by Hameline, seconded by Violette, the Planning Commission voted to approve the minutes from February 17, 2016

On a motion by Clain, seconded by Hameline, the Planning Commission voted to approve the minutes from March 16, 2016.

3) **WARNED PUBLIC HEARINGS (7:05 p.m.)**

Public hearing on the proposed amendments to Chapter 8 (energy) section 8.5 (renewable energy) to the Town of Barre Municipal Plan.

Sanborn provided a recap of how the changes to the energy section came about.

Regan Howard and Val Vallerand among other family members were in attendance representing Paquet Farms – Regan and Val read a prepared statement. The Paquet family as a whole is looking for alternative ways to find revenue that will allow them to continue to operate the farm. They feel that the revenue generate from a solar plant that they may wish to be involved with will help tremendously as it could for other agricultural uses. They are not supportive of plan revisions that could impede solar development in Barre Town.

Kathy Brouillette – suggested that the PC use Northern Power Systems as a resource to help with the energy plan.

On a motion by Violette, seconded by Duke, the Planning Commission voted to close the public hearing.

The Central Vermont Regional Planning Commission (CVRPC) sent a letter to Cedric regarding Barre Town's proposed energy section amendments to the Plan. In the letter, they noted that proposed revisions may not be specific enough based on guidance provided by the Agency of

Commerce and Community Development. The Planning Commission decided it would be best to set aside the current draft and continue working on changes to the Energy plan.

Cedric drafted more proposed changes prior to this hearing which were distributed to the members. After discussion it was decided that the members should review the changes and make comments or suggest revision or additions and get those comments back to Chris before the next meeting.

On a motion by Clain, seconded by Violette, the Planning Commission voted to continue working on Section 8 of the Town of Barre Town Plan.

Request by David Cambio for the allowed use determination to add an additional curb-cut for his property located at 44 Windywood Road; Parcel ID 035/054.00; Zoned: High Density Residential; AU-16000001

On a motion by Violette, seconded by Clain, the Planning Commission voted to open the public hearing for David Cambio's request.

With Mr. Cambio not in attendance the hearing will be continued until May 18, 2016.

On a motion by Violette, seconded by Hameline, the Planning Commission voted to continue the request by David Cambio for the allowed use determination to add an additional curb-cut for his property located at 44 Windywood Road until May 18, 2016; Parcel ID 035/054.00; Zoned: High Density Residential; AU-16000001

On a motion by Thygesen, seconded by Duke, the Planning Commission voted to close the public hearing.

4) **TOWN PLAN AMENDMENT(S):**

5) **OTHER:**

Discuss sending a letter to the PSB regarding the Novus Beckley Hill solar project.

The screening plan that is proposed is acceptable and we urge that the plan be incorporated into their final plan, as well as maintenance on the landscaping be maintained. Make a note of the greenfield. We aren't in favor. Send the plan along with the letter. Visible along the road. Decommissioning.

Discuss S214

No discussion took place.

6) **CORRESPONDENCE:**

7) **ADJOURN!**

On a motion by Sanborn, seconded by Duke, the Planning Commission voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting of April 20, 2016 at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Heidi Bennett

Cedric Sanborn, Chair

John Hameline

Chris Violette

Charlie Thygesen Sr.

Claire Duke

George Clain

Debra Pierce