

## Johnson Planning Commission Meeting Final Minutes

Johnson Municipal Building

Tuesday December 4th, 2018

Board Members Present: Phillip Wilson, David Butler, Rob Rodriguez, Kim Dunkley and Paul Warden.  
Charles Gallanter, Kyle Hill, Greg Tatro

Other visitors: Lea Kilvadyova LCPC, Mark Woodward

1. David called the meeting to order at 7:08 P.M.
2. Paul moved and Phil seconded the approval of the minutes from October 2nd 2018 as amended. The motion passed with Paul, Greg and Rob abstaining. Kim and Phil seconded a motion to accept the minutes from November 6<sup>th</sup> 2018. The motion passed. Greg abstained. Acceptance of the September minutes were forwarded to next month's meeting
3. Lea spoke about some of the services that the Lamoille County Planning Commission (LCPC) provides the town of Johnson as part of their required consultation. Lea reviewed many of the projects and plans which the town and the commission have completed together with LCPC in the past few years. Lea updated the commission on recent statutory changes which could benefit the town. One example is a Vermont Housing Conservation Board (VHCB) opportunity to assist communities under 5,000 residents with grant writing. (Mark Woodward arrived at 7:39) Conversation was had on how the planning commission could increase communication with the Select Board and work with them to develop project ideas and apply for grants to fund those projects. Brownfield's phase 1 assessment grants, another program which LCPC assists Johnson with was discussed. The town and village are currently completing an assessment of the talc mill property. There are several properties in the village which could benefit from the assessment.
4. Mark discussed a recent Perdue University study showing that for every dollar investment in broadband infrastructure 4 dollars in economic development is derived. The Vermont Electric COOP has recently explored getting in to the fiber optic business using their fiber optic network which traverses the county, but at this point has not decided to pursue it. As a regulated utility they cannot divert monies from their electric department to roll out broadband service as utilities in unregulated states could do. There are other cooperative models for developing fiber networks in Vermont. A meeting tomorrow at LCPC with a commissioner of the Public Utility Commission is going to be attended by commission members to advocate for more support for fiber optics development.
5. The next meeting, planned for Tuesday the 1<sup>st</sup> of January was moved to Wednesday the 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 P.M. to avoid the holiday.
6. Kim D. motioned to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:42 P.M. The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday January 2nd at the Johnson Municipal Building, 7:00 P.M.