

**JOHNSON PLANNING COMMISSION**

**MINUTES**

Regular Meeting: Thursday, 11 MAY 2023, 7:00 PM EDT

*In person*

**Members** (P=Present; A=Absent)

<b>Adrienne Stevson</b>	<b>P</b>	<i>Vacant Seat</i>		<b>Rob Rodriguez</b>	<b>P</b>
<b>Charles Gallanter</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Kim Cotnoir</b>	<b>P</b>	<i>Vacant Seat</i>	
<b>David Butler</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Kyley Hill</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>Paul Warden</b>	<b>P</b>

**Guests: Meghan Rodier and Sal Morales (Lamoille County Planning Commission), Jim MacDowell (VT Studio Center), Lois Frey and Conservation Commission**

Call to Order

Agenda Changes - None

Public Comment – Jim MacDowell introduced himself and explained his interest in being aware of the Town and Village Combined Municipal Development Plan details so that the Vermont Studio Center can take Town and Village priorities into consideration when writing grant applications. Jim is also a former member of the Planning Commission.

Approval of 09 MAR 2023 meeting minutes (no quorum for April meeting; no action, no minutes).  
Adrienne motioned to accept as written, Kylie seconded, no discussion, passed unanimously.

Mail – Review/Discussion – No mail.

Chair Updates / Member Issues.

- (1) JPC Survey – text comments published on FPF – any public feedback? None received.
- (2) TOJ ARPA funds/VABB matching grant for Lamoille FiberNet – The Johnson Selectboard contributed \$50,000 to Lamoille FiberNet for the VABB Matching Grant; \$100,000 to be spent in Johnson on broadband.
- (3) LVRT – TOJ Connectivity Work Group. Adrienne update: the work group has met with the Selectboard and separately and is in the process of organizing and identifying priorities.
- (4) Andy Mink proposed development on River Road West / possible Form Based Code extension? Chair advised members re conversation with Mr. Mink and his thoughts that FBC extension to include his property would make Act 250 easier for him to navigate. He believes additional housing, particularly close to the Town/Village center, is in concert with Town and State needs and goals.
- (5) VT DOH 3-4-50 – Awareness. VT DOH initiative to raise awareness and promote healthier lifestyle choices. 3 Behaviours (no physical activity, poor diet, tobacco use) lead to 4 Diseases (cancer, heart disease/stroke, Diabetes (T2), Lung Disease) that result in greater than 50% of deaths in VT. Municipalities and organizations can partner with VT DOH in this effort.
- (6) TOJ submitted LOI for a grant from the Northern Border Regional Commission for Light Industrial Park infrastructure funds. If the LOI meets the criteria and is accepted, then TOJ will be asked to submit a full grant proposal.

Review of LCPC edits made to “Housing and Demographics” chapter of Municipal Plan as per JPC comments. Accepted with discussion.

Review of LCPC edits to the “Economic Development” chapter of the Municipal Plan as per JPC work group comments. Accepted with discussion.

Discussion/draft edits for the NATURAL, SCENIC AND HISTORIC RESOURCES chapter of Municipal Plan. Reviewed text, good discussion throughout including: commentary about land ownership and its effect on natural resource policy, what defines a farm (re economic impact), the number of gravel pits in Town, discrepancy of Johnson acreage (Town Plan vs Census), the need to reference the 2017 Johnson Natural Resources Inventory, reference Peregrine Falcon nesting area at Prospect Rock, investigating the possibility of designating sites for National Historic Registry (beyond the state Division of Historic Preservation designation), etc. The Conservation Commission will provide additional information including a listing of Town owned properties that are open to the public and a list of Conservation Commission projects/achievements to LCPC for inclusion in their draft for review at the next meeting.

9:00 Adjourn.