

October 1, 2024
Planning Commission Minutes

Members Present: Sean Barrows (Chair), Jim Flint, Leona Minard

Absent: Michael Brzoza

Also Present: Jeffrey Biasuzzi, Zoning Administrator (ZA) via telephone (for part of meeting)

Call to order: Chair S. Barrows called the Meeting to Order at 6:07 p.m. and led the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda: L. Minard moved to approve the Agenda. J. Flint seconded, all approved, and Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes:

J. Flint moved to table the minutes of August 6, 2024 due to only one member who attended the August 6 meeting being present to vote on the minutes. Edits to the minutes were noted. J. Flint will forward corrected minutes to J. Biasuzzi.

Member Discussion:

New Business: Review 45-day Act 248 notice from Boardman Storage LLC to install a 5MW (battery) Energy Storage facility next to the Boardman Solar LLC photovoltaic generation facility currently under construction.

J. Flint moved the recommendation below, L. Minard seconded, all approved and Motion passed:

The Planning Commission recommends that the Town of West Rutland request party status and a public hearing on the proposed Boardman Storage LLC project. The Planning Commission has concerns regarding the aesthetics, landscaping, fire safety, and the proposed setback from the road. The Town Plan supports the development of Town guidelines on energy storage, which are yet to be developed.

New Business: Review letter from Kyle Medash regarding the Special Flood Hazard Area regulations as they relate to updates in the West Rutland Zoning Ordinance. The Planning Commission feels that it would be beneficial to have Kyle attend an upcoming Planning Commission meeting to provide additional information and answer questions.

New Business: Review information on Setback Waivers (Town of Brandon) provided by J. Biasuzzi. The Commission feels that it would be beneficial to have more information from J. Biasuzzi at the next Planning Commission meeting on the pros and cons of adding Setback Waivers to the Zoning regulations.

New Business: Review emails provided by J. Biasuzzi regarding civil penalties and injunctions for zoning violations. The Commission feels that it would be beneficial to have more information from J. Biasuzzi at the next Planning Commission meeting on the proposal to include a schedule of monetary penalties and an injunction process within the Zoning regulations.

Public Input: None

Next meeting: November 19, 2024 at 6 p.m.

Adjournment: L. Minard, second J. Flint, all approved. Meeting ended at 7:53 p.m.