

Starks Planning Board Meeting
April 2, 2025

This was a combined meeting of both the Planning Board and the Selectmen, an opportunity to meet with the town's new CEO and seek his input on several pertinent issues including MUBEC, building standards and enforcement options/strategies.

Present [for the Planning Board]: Gwen Hilton, Ken Lust, Claire Nelson, Tiffany Bellefleur, Joe Hartigan

Present [for the Select Board]: Ernie Hilton, Byrne Wright

Guests: CEO Jonathan Arnold, Maggie Wright.

Adequate public notice was given of the meeting, a quorum was present, both for the Planning Board and the Select Board, and no conflicts of interest nor bias were reported. The meeting's agenda was approved, and public comments were invited.

Old Business:

The minutes of the March 5, 2025, meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

New Business:

Planning Board election of Officers

In accordance with Section IV, A (Organization) of its by-Laws, the Board elected officers for the upcoming year. A motion was made and carried to re-elect the existing slate of officers.

Chair: Gwen Hilton

Vice Chair: Ken Lust

Secretary: Claire Nelson

Letter of Credit for Starks Holdings LLC

As a courtesy, Ken contacted Nate Niles to inform him that the solar facility's Letter of Credit is due to expire on April 30th and needs to be renewed. The Board gave approval by unanimous consent for Ken to handle a draw on the L/C should a replacement not be provided by the current expiry.

Introduction and discussion with Jonathan Arnold, CEO

The Boards had a productive and information discussion with Jonathan Arnold, the Town's new Code Enforcement Officer. Jonathan clearly brings a wealth of experience both as a contractor and as the CEO for several other small local communities. While the discussion focused on MUBEC and its implications, other concerns included strategies for the enforcement of junk yard violations and the process for issuing occupancy permits. Jonathan expressed a sincere interest in working with the Town in a spirit of cooperation.

A discussion took place about naming an alternate to replace Byrne Wright considering his move to the Select Board. There are actually two alternate positions available and after some discussion, Ernie stated he would post a notice on the All Things Starks' Facebook page and send a notice out via the town email list seeking people interested in serving.

Adjourn: 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Claire Nelson, Secretary