

Tinmouth Planning Commission
November 21, 2024
Regular Meeting Minutes

Members present in-person: Michael Fallar, Larry Carabeau, Vito Macaluso, Judy Gilmore, and Andy Gilmore
Members present via Zoom: Ann Lundquist, Kim Harbaugh and Pat Psholka
Others: present in-person: Joe Buffum, Robbie Leeds, and Gail Fallar Secretary
And via Zoom: Sherry Johnson

Michael called the meeting to order at 7:00. Everyone introduced themselves.

Members reviewed the agenda – added report from Judy regarding RRPC, Tinmouth’s new representative, and an executive session to discuss a personnel issue.

Minutes of 10/24/24 – Secretary advised there was a dangling sentence inadvertently left in from previous minutes that needed to be removed. Ann moved to approve with that correction, Larry 2nded, all voted in favor.

Judy advised the RRPC is working on a new regional plan, would like PC to take survey regarding progress they have made. She also noted the Tinmouth can have wood and gas in their energy plan. She will report monthly.

Members then discussed what a planning commission does and asked Joe and Robbie about their interest in filling the vacancy left by Bob’s passing. Joe advised he has lived in town his entire life, would like to participate, Robbie moved to town 7 years ago, has 2 kids in school, would like to address housing issues. He noted he is a member of the recreation committee and Chair of the Recreation Committee.

Enhanced Energy Plan (EEP) – Jeremy from RRPC sent an email encouraging members to continue its review of his draft. Members explained some of the proposed changes to Joe and Robbie – Vito’s disclaimer and research on his actual energy use. Members continued review, agreed to delete some sections, noted that some of the sections would be easier to understand if there were graphics – secretary will ask Jeremy if he has them prepared.

Ann reported attending a meeting regarding climate action and that there were many towns questioning the data provided by the state – it’s not just a Tinmouth concern – wondering where the numbers are coming from. Vito advised the plan needs to deal with reality, not be a pipe dream.

Ann suggested adding a section that would encourage old fashioned steps ‘cultural wisdom’ – like planting shade trees, using curtains to keep in heat and out, clothes lines (outside) racks (inside), etc.

Members also expressed concern if everything is electric and the power goes out . . . Members reviewed pages 3 through 7. Need to make a list of what is happening now – what we are doing currently to conserve energy.

Members voted to enter executive session to discuss a personnel issue at 8:27, exited at 8:41. Andy moved and Vito seconded to recommend Joe Buffum to the Select Board to fill the current vacancy, and Robbie for a future vacancy. 7 voted in favor, Kim abstained. Kim wanted the minutes to reflect that he supported Marshall Squier.

Members decided to meet on December 19th, bring cookies and holiday thoughts. Members were encouraged to complete the RRPC survey. Larry encouraged them to take a look at the Climate Action link at RRPC, it is interesting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Gail Fallar, Secretary