

**TOWN OF SKOWHEGAN
PLANNING BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

June 7, 2022

7:00 P.M.

Municipal Building, Council Room

PRESENT:

Steve St. Pierre, Vice-chairman
Jeff McCabe
Derek Chretien
Dan Luce, Alternate
Joel Greenwood, Planner
Cynthia Kirk, Recording Secretary

ABSENT: Steve Conley, Chairman, Stephen Gould, Secretary, Harvey Austin, Matt Smith

PUBLIC PRESENT:

Bryan Belliveau, CEO
Jessica Cobb, KVCOG
Kate Drummond
Barry Sites
Tristen Hinkle

1) QUORUM:

Planning Board Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M. Quorum was present.

2) MINUTES OF THE May 17, 2022 PLANNING BOARD MEETING TO BE APPROVED:

Motion by Derek Chretien to approve the May 17, 2022 Planning Board meeting minutes, as written. Seconded by Dan Luce. Motion passed 2-0-1. (Jeff McCabe abstained)

3) SITE PLAN / SUBDIVISION:

None

4) ITEMS BY THE PUBLIC:

None

5) COMMUNICATIONS:

None

6) NEW BUSINESS:

A) Discussion of the FEMA Watershed Discovery Questionnaire.

Bryan said he put this on the agenda to see if anybody had any thoughts about areas of concern in town that might not have been addressed in the past. He said he has to submit this questionnaire by July 8th. Joel said he can't think of anything that really needs to be addressed but he would like to mention to them the need for updated Floodplain maps and possibly getting a digital version of those maps as well. It would make things much easier.

Jeff McCabe asked if Bryan had touched base with the fire department on this. Bryan said he had forwarded it to them but has not received any response yet.

7) UNFINISHED BUSINESS:
None

8) COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE:

A) Review 2nd draft of the Water Resources chapter.

Tristen Hinkle said she has done some research regarding protecting our drinking water resources and she said we might want to check out some of the resources that are offered such as the Maine Drinking Water Program and the Maine Rural Water Program. She said that both of these have entities that can help with the development of Comprehensive Plans as well as town ordinances.

Joel said that if they are looking to come up with regulations for protecting the drinking water resources then they would need to develop a whole new ordinance since we currently don't really have anything that pertains to that. He said that it definitely sounds like this is something that they will want to incorporate into this chapter of the Comprehensive Plan to start with.

Joel said he has updated the water resources map and everyone should have a copy of that. He said it looks like most of the drinking water resources come from natural aquifers near the Maine Water ponds. Jeff McCabe said they also will pump water in from the river as well.

Jessica Cobb stated that when she spoke with Maine Water, they told they only pump water from the river on rare occasions when the ponds are running low. She also said that Maine Water would like to work with the town in protecting the drinking water resource more.

Jeff McCabe asked if there are a lot of encroachments onto the land owned by Maine Water. Bryan said that according to the map that was provided to him by Maine Water there are approximately 15 encroachments onto their property. He said one of their biggest concerns is the automobile graveyard/ junkyards that are near the drinking water supply ponds. Kate Drummond asked what actually counts as an encroachment. Bryan said that anything that he has the authority to regulate such as buildings, fences and automobile graveyards/ junkyards.

Jessica Cobb reviewed the changes she has made to the water resources chapter since the last meeting.

Tristen Hinkle said that the Conservation Commission has been doing a lot of work with the Whitten Brook here in town including starting a steering committee to begin on the next phase of original project that was done 10 years ago. She asked if there is some way to get this project added and/ or updated within the Comprehensive Plan as well. This is a very important resource for our town and still needs a lot of work to prevent pollutants from entering into this stream. Joel said this is the time to bring things like this up while they are updating the Comprehensive Plan chapters. Then down the road they will be working on policies to help achieve the goals in the plan.

9) ITEMS BY:

- **SELECTMEN:**
- **DEPARTMENT HEADS:**
- **MEMBERS:**
- **CHAIRMAN:**

- **STAFF:** Joel said he will be attending the annual town meeting on June 13th if there are any questions regarding the ordinances that they have worked on and updated.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Jeff McCabe to adjourn at 7:44 p.m., Seconded by Derek Chretien.

Motion passed 3-0.

Minutes approved on July 19, 2022

Chairman
