

Approved

Orford Planning Board

June 11th, 2024 Meeting

Minutes

## Town of Orford Planning Board

### Meeting Minutes – June 11th, 2024, Meeting

*Board members & staff present:* Mark Adamczyk, Chair; Paul Goundrey, Vice Chair; Martha Rose, Secretary; Caleb Day, Member; Tom Thomson, member; Chase Kling, Selectboard Member; Vickie Davis, UVLSRPC;

*Public attending in-person:* none

*Public attending virtually:* none

Mark Adamczyk, Chair called the meeting to order at 5:30PM

Chase K. reviewed protocol with Mark A. State for the record that a full quorum of at least 4 board members is present. Three members absent.

**Item 1: Review minutes from the previous meeting:** Minutes from the May 14<sup>th</sup> meeting reviewed. Tom T. made a motion to approve and seconded by Caleb D.

**Item 2: Planning Board email addresses:** Per Vickie D. the individual Planning Board emails would cost \$7.20 per email per month, or about \$50/mo., \$600/year. Tom T. asked why do we need this? The discussion in previous meetings was about keeping all Planning Board correspondence away from private email services due to possible “freedom of information requests”. Chase K. asked if we have that in the Planning Board budget and pointed out that half the year was over, so the amount needed for this year is \$300.

Paul Goundrey arrived at 5:36PM

Item 2 continued: Vickie D. asked why we don't use Gmail because it's free. It would still be considered personal email. Chase K. said that for \$300 we could use the Planning Board operating budget for the rest of this year and add a line item for 2025 Planning Board budget. Chase K. asked Mark A. to contact Esther about this expense and how and when it is billed.

**Item 4: Update Planning Board email address and the laptop computer:** Mark A. said the Planning Board laptop was still being built and he would use his personal laptop until then. Vickie D. and Mark A. discussed how to “host” the zoom public link because we have been using the UVLSRPC for the zoom link. We all discussed the zoom link and use. Vickie D. asked if all the contact and email addresses were correct for the board member list. All is correct.

**Item 3: Regional Planning Commission contract:** The UVLSRPC contract expires on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Vickie D. let us know that the director is out until later in July. Mark A. asked if we should table until July meeting and Vickie D. said the contract would expire and we would not be covered. Mark A. asked if we have the budget. Chase K. explained that this expense was in the budget and asked what the price increase from this contract was and last year, Vickie D. said it was \$5 per hour increase but that some of the work she had been doing for us is now done by members of the Planning Board so the hours would be less than previous. Mark A. made a motion to approve the circuit rider for the period July 1, 2024-July 1, 2025, Caleb D. seconded. All in favor, no nays. Mark A. are there any more questions or discussions? No.

**Item 5: Master Plan discussion:** All board members present had read over the master plan. Mark A. was interested in how the taxes in Orford are calculated and appropriated. Chase K. gave a history of why our taxes are so high, stating that there are only 1200 or so residents, no real industry, few businesses, high in-current use and few high value waterfront

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properties. .75 of every dollar goes to the school budget. A short discussion on how the school affects the overall budget. All Planning Board members will read more of the master plan to see what is still relevant and what is not. The master plan also discussed high speed internet which leads to item 6.

**Item 6: Telecommunications Ordinance update:** The Planning Board is all in favor of updating the cell phone tower ordinance to make it easier to do business with Orford. Chase K. brought up again the danger of all the summer camps open and how easily they can be cut off during floods or fires with no ability to contact the outside and how many people experience emergencies on the AT and emergency services cannot make contact out east of Orford. We have all reviewed ordinances from other like size towns, Grantham and Woodstock, NH. Chase K. pointed out they are both towns on the interstate. All realized the need for it and gave guidelines on how and where the towers can be placed. A discussion on how our ordinance compares with other sized towns. Martha R. asked how we moved this forward? Tom T. commented that the current ordinance has a tone that the town does not want any cell phone towers. Tom T. mentioned that there is no mention of cell phone towers in the Master Plan. Mark A. suggested to follow the language of the Master Plan to come up with questions. It was decided that Mark A. and Caleb D. would form a subcommittee to come up with some questions for a residential mailing to see what the residents of Orford want. We talked about the cost of printing and mailing. The target is mid-July. Chase K. said there is an operating budget for printing and mailing.

**Other Business:**

**-Gravel Pits:** There is one gravel pit in town. Must inspect once a year. There is an operating permit that must be renewed each year. RSA 155E. Need to inspect for erosion, water runoff, etc. Chase K. said they need to contact the owner and find out the intentions of the pit. Chase K. would contact Stacey Thomson (pit owner) and arrange to go with Mark A. to inspect.

**-Review any invoices/mail:** No new invoices or mail.

**-New Applications:** Vickie D. no new applications.

Respectfully submitted, Martha Rose, Orford Planning Board Secretary

**Tentative Meeting Agenda for July 9th, 2024, 5:30 PM Town Offices'**

Mark A. will make the agenda for the next meeting.

Mark A. made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:42 PM. The motion was seconded by Paul, and unanimous agreement followed.