

Townshend Planning Commission
Draft Minutes
July 25, 2018

Present: John Evans; Robert DeSiervo, Brandon Canevari and Andrew Snelling

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Evans called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m.

2. **Approval of the Minutes:** DeSiervo moved to approve the minutes of July 11, 2018 with a correction to the date. The motion was seconded by Canevari and unanimously carried.

3. **Additions and Deletions:** None presented

4. **Members of the Public:** None present

5. **Correspondence:** None

6. **Old Business:**
 - Town Plan Action Items: The Commissioners reviewed the priorities for action on implementing the Town Plan from pages 70-73 of the Town Plan. There was discussion on all the items but with particular emphasis to the items that are the responsibility of the Planning Commission.
 - Act 174 Energy Plan Snelling suggested that the Planning Commission may want to consider applying for a Municipal Planning Grant to develop an Act 174 compliant energy element, if there wasn't any other need for a planning grant next year. There was a discussion about the possibility of specific grant money for Act 174 energy elements and other potential uses of a Municipal Planning Grant. No action taken.
 - Village Center Designation: Canevari brought up the prior discussion of doing a survey of businesses in the potential Village Centers to determine if there was any interest in the benefits from designation. Canevari agreed to give a presentation next meeting on the Village Center Designation process and potential benefits.

7. **New Business:**
 - Special Town Meeting review: The commissioners discussed the results of the vote on Article 1 at the town meeting and the associated discussion from members

of the town regarding land use regulations. It was apparent that the majority is opposed to zoning but that there is also strong interest in protecting the character of Townshend. Evans mentioned the question regarding town ordinances for land use regulation, specifically sign ordinances. Snelling distributed copies of sign ordinances from other towns in the area. All the Commissioners agreed to review the ordinances and to have a discussion at the next meeting whether this sort of ordinance would be beneficial to Townshend.

- 8. Other Business:** The third printing of the Town Plan is back from the printer and we once again have a supply on hand.
Snelling mentioned the need to get the Planning Commission files better organized and to create more space for current materials. Evans mentioned that there is plenty of space in the basement but we need to box up some of the older materials.
- 9. Meeting Schedule:** Regular Meeting: August 8, 2018 @ 7:15 p.m.
Regular Meeting: August 22, 2018 @ 7:15 p.m.
- 10. Adjournment:** Canevari made a motion, seconded by DeSiervo, to adjourn at 9:30 p.m. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrew Snelling