

Comp Plan Implementation Committee minutes meeting of 8-7-14

Meeting opened 4:45 PM

Present: Vickie Mills, Russ McMullen, Jessica O'donaghue, Grant Hirst

Absent: Steve Beckert Others: Jack Murphy

Minutes of 7-3-14 read and accepted with four changes. Grant will make those changes on the original and forward to Wendy as the final version.

In view of Noah's work schedule preventing him from attending our meetings, Russ will call him and ask him to formally resign (in writing); but if he does not do so by the next meeting (Sept 7), he will be formally terminated from the committee in accordance with the governing rules.

Kate told us that potential building growth in town (based on developable land) has been projected and those numbers can be found on pages 173 and 174 of the Comp Plan.

In response to Vickie's inquiries, Dana provided us with a list of probable service needs in the event of substantial residential building growth. Bottom line appears to be that Public Works is on the edge already and that any further building would result in Dana asking for more staffing and more equipment. Staffing at the town garage is still at four where it has been since 1983. Also, Code Enforcement is already straining to keep up with service demand and further growth would further strain that resource. He pointed out that other departments in town would not likely be impacted in a significant way.

He also provided us with an outline of how we should go forward with the implementation of our task. This would likely involve calling a meeting of all Committee chairs for a review of what each one needed to do; and setting a suggested time frame for completion.

Neither Bobbi Beavers nor Dawn Hill have responded to Dana's request for information on governing law re growth ordinances. Vickie will ask Dana to follow up. She will also ask Dana to ask Martine for info on affordable housing stats.

Jack has done extensive research on the history of our growth ordinance and the issue of building permits over a number of years. At the BOS meeting of August 21st he is going to present his findings- which appears will result in a suggestion that the growth ordinance remain on the books but that the +5% growth rate- which is currently part of the ordinance- be increased to a significantly higher number.

Governing law states that the increase can be 5% "OR MORE". The "OR MORE" part needs to be explored to see what latitude we have in setting this increase. It does appear that we should have been reviewing this ordinance periodically to see if the 5% still worked. It appears we have not been doing this and that the 5% has been too limiting.

Meeting adjourned 5:40 NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 7 4:45pm

Grant Hirst Recording Secretary