

The Town of St. Albans  
PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES  
Town Hall, 579 Lake Road  
November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

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Minutes

**Present:** S. Smith (Chair), B. Brigham (Vice Chair) G. Henderson (Clerk), B. Deso,

**Staff Present:** Ned Connell, Director of Administration, AJ Johnson

**Public Present:** Elaine Ezrins, Messenger

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair, S. Smith called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

A. Voegelé is currently the Interim Town Manager; he will recuse himself from the Planning Commission until he is no longer acting as the Town Manager.

**SIDEWALK MASTER PLAN-**

The Planning Commission reviewed the Prioritized Sidewalk Corridors from the 2003 Sidewalk Master Plan. N. Connell shared a slideshow with the PC that stated the information was good, but failed to recognize two key factors; 1. Traffic volume along a road segment, and 2. Evidence of an existing user volume / base.

N. Connell revised the list with the key factors included and suggested the priorities in the following order-

1. Congress Street (City line to Hard'ack)
2. Multi-use path crossing of SASH
3. North Main Street and Swanton Road from City line / rail-trail to Eveready – suggest 10 foot wide multi-use path along western side of road.
4. Swanton Road from Eveready to Wal-Mart- suggest 10 foot wide multi-use path along eastern side of road.
5. Fairfield Street
6. Upper Welden Street
7. Fairfax Street
8. Nason Street from City line to Lapierre Road
9. Lake Road from City line to Bronson Road
10. High Street from City line to VT Route 105 and the rail- trail.
11. St. Albans Bay area

B. Brigham asked why a sidewalk from Harbor View to the City line had not been considered. He stated that 90-something homes were being built in the development and there was already a sidewalk extending from the development to Route 7. N. Connell agreed to do further research on a possible sidewalk by Harbor View.

S. Smith explained the Congress to Hard' Ack sidewalk would only be feasible if the Town built it and the City agreed to maintain it.

The PC agreed to have N. Connell forward the priority list to consultant, J. Steele.

**TOWN PLAN UPDATE – HAZARD MITIGATION AND FLOOD RESILIENCE**

The PC reviewed the Hazard Mitigation and Flood Resilience section for the Town Plan Update. N. Connell provided the PC with a handout showing the Vision, Goals, and Objectives of the section. N. Connell reminded the PC they would do a full read through of the text of the Town Plan Update closer to submitting it.

**RESOLUTION SUPPORTING BETTER CONNECTIONS GRANT**

N. Connell explained the Town and City would be collaborating on a Better Connections grant application for approximately \$75,000.

An application had been submitted last year but only three applicants were chosen. The City and Town were the fourth choice. The goal of the grant is to do a study on the feasibility of building a pedestrian path along Route 7 into the North end of Town. The grant would require a 10% match which would be split between the City and Town 66/33. RiseVT is doing a preliminary survey to gauge the public's interest by speaking with pedestrians around Hannaford and Price Chopper. S. Smith accepted a motion to allow him to sign the application once it's complete.

**MOTION: B. Brigham made a motion to allow Chair, S. Smith to sign the application for the Better Connections Grant. B. Deso seconded. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.**

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Planning Commission reviewed a Stormwater invoice from the State of Vermont. The bill is a standard fee paid to the State as a group of MS4 communities. The Selectboard will authorize paying the bill, but the PC was given a copy to review.

The Planning Commission reviewed correspondence from the Public Service Board on the Swanton Wind project regarding a pre-hearing conference and a response for interventions.

#### **MINUTES**

**MOTION: B. Brigham made a motion to sign the minutes of the meeting dated October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2016. B. Deso seconded. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.**

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION: B. Brigham made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. B. Deso seconded. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,  
AJ Johnson, Administrative Assistant

_____	_____
<b>Sam Smith, Chair</b>	<b>Date</b>
_____	_____
<b>Brent Brigham, Vice Chair</b>	<b>Date</b>
_____	_____
<b>Grant Henderson, Clerk</b>	<b>Date</b>
_____	_____
<b>Brendan Deso</b>	<b>Date</b>