

**Town of Alburgh
Planning Commission Minutes
August 15, 2023
Alburgh Municipal Building**

Present: Donna Boumil, Brian Tjelta, Terry Tatro, Renee Creller, John Chesarek, Tom Jacobsen, Erik Ramakrishnan

Adjustment to the Agenda: Add "signs" as Item No. 6A

Approval of the July Minutes: M (RC)/ S (TJ)/ C (TT Abstained)

Municipal Planning Grant: Town Administration will apply for the grant, but the Selectboard asked for the Commission's input on how funds should be used. The grant application is due in November.

Motion: The Commission recommends that funds be used to hire a consultant to look at past studies and scoping plans prepared for the Town with respect to safe routes to school to develop a conceptual safe-routes-to-school plan. M (ER)/ S (JC)/ C (TT Abstained).

Economic Development Subcommittee Report: Subcommittee members provided an update on the planned September Economic Development Forum. The Commission approved a \$500 budget for the event. (*N.B.:* As of August 15, 2023 PC meeting, the forum was scheduled for September 18, 2023. Since then, it has been noticed for September 25, 2023.)

Town Plan Update: Emily Klofft returned to discuss next steps in the Town Plan update. She provided and received input from the Commission on the Commission's goals and objectives for possible inclusion in the plan. A draft survey was provided to discuss at the next meeting for receiving community input on the plan. It was decided that the Commission needs input from the Selectboard about whether Town control over US-2 and/or a Downtown Development Code is on the table for discussion.

Motion: The Chair will discuss with the Selectboard Chair the opportunity to appear before the Selectboard to discuss US-2 and a Downtown Development Code. M (RC)/ S (BT)/ C.

Signage: Tom Jacobsen provided a report about discussions with the Senior Center re signage at Bicentennial Park. The Senior Center is interested in helping with that. There was a suggestion to include the Town logo on any signage. John Chesarek has had communications with VTrans regarding a parking sign along US-2 and Industrial Park Road to direct people to the trailhead. The state has indicated that there is already too much signage at that intersection and that it wants a better delineated parking area first. If we can work through these issues, the state will be amenable to signage.