

BETHEL PLANNING COMMISSION
DRAFT Minutes, Meeting of 11/20/13

Page 1 of 1

Attending: Andrew Delaney (Chair); Fred Dieffenbach; Peter Dohrn; Carla Hodgdon; Carl Russell (Select Board); Chris Sargent (TRORC).

1. **Call to Order:** 7:06 PM.
2. **Review/Revise Agenda:** No changes to DRAFT distributed 11/14/13.
3. **Minutes of the 09/18/13 Meeting:** [Note: There was no meeting in October.] Approved as distributed in DRAFT on 09/20/13.
4. **Correspondence:** (a) Notice from DEC regarding application for a 2-bedroom addition to their 3-bedroom single family residence by Mark & Christie Nicholson- file; (b) 2012 ORCA Media '*Report to the Community*'- file; '*Community Strategies for Vermont's Forests and Wildlife – A Guide for Local Action*', booklet from VT Natural Resources Council provided by TRORC- Carla will obtain additional copies for Commission members.
5. **Discussion of Proposed Amendments to Town Plan Chapters forwarded by Chris Sargent:** *Utilities & Facilities* [Capital Budgeting and Planning, Town Buildingsa, Privately Owned Community Buildings, Municipal Services, Cemeteries, Other Facilities, Communication Facilities, Goals/Policies/Recommendations] and *Recreation* portions reviewedand revised. Review and discussion of *Health & Emergency Services* and *Transportation* deferred until next meeting.
6. **Recommendation for Select Board re: Zoning Administrator:** Letter from Preston Bristow expressing interest in the Zoning Administrator [ZA] position reviewed -also Del Cloud's email that Abbie Sherman 'willing to serve' in that capacity. Points made during discussion included: most towns have a 'stand-alone' ZA; Sherman already familiar with Bethel's Ordinance and Regulations; Two Rivers receiving very favorable feedback about Bristow's performance in contracting towns (7) regarding his professionalism and abilities; While perhaps cost-saving, has Bethel put 'too many eggs in one basket' with the former Town Manager wearing so many hats; Our Assistant Town Manager is at present participating in the orientation of an Interim Manager- this will be repeated at some time for a permanent Town Manager. By consensus, the Commission agreed to recommend Preston Bristow to the Select Board as a separate, stand alone ZA. The Commission further recommended that this be on a trial basis, with a decision made whether to continue the ZA as a the separate postion after our permanent Town Manager is on board and up-to-speed. **Action: Andrew Delaney, Chair, will send a letter to the Select Board with the above recommendation(s).**
7. **Other Business:** None.
8. **Next Meeting/ Agenda Items: Wednesday, DECEMBER 18, 2013.**
[7:00 PM at the Bethel Town Office.]
Continue review/discussion of proposed amendments to Town Plan chapters.
9. **Adjourn:** 9:15 PM.

Distributed: 12/09/13.