

BETHEL PLANNING COMMISSION (PC)

**Minutes: Meeting of 07/19/17**

Attending: Brad Andrews, Andrew Delaney (Chair), Peter Dohrn, Kevin Geiger (TRORC), Jose Lazo (Chair, Bethel Energy Committee), Andy Stone, Greg Maggard (Bethel Town Manager)

1. **Call to Order.** 7:05 PM.
2. **Review / Revise Agenda.** Kevin Geiger from TRORC was present with some additional information about sections of the new town plan iteration; his presentation was added to the agenda (#5) as the first item of business.
3. **Correspondence.** There was no correspondence to review.
4. **Minutes, Meeting of 06/21/17.** Approved as distributed in draft on 07/03/17.
5. **Presentation / Discussion: Enhanced Energy Plan.** TRORC representative Kevin Geiger reviewed elements of what will be required for the next iteration of the town plan, with a focus on the new enhanced energy section. These enhanced energy components are optional for towns to incorporate, however, towns with them receive preference from the Public Service Board when solar or wind development requests are being considered. The group did a further review of maps provided by TRORC delineating prioritized areas for both solar and wind installations. Bethel needs to review the maps to fine-tune prioritization of identified areas from a local perspective: there was discussion of this being a collaborative effort between the the Energy Committee and PC.
6. **Survey for 2019 Town Plan Update.** There was a preliminary discussion of what revisions and additions should be made to the format of the new questionnaire and to the questions themselves. There was also discussion of trying to coordinate the survey with the Visioning committee, which is currently engaged in related outreach and community engagement efforts. Andy Stone will try to attend the next Visioning Committee meeting to get an update on that committee's activities. Costs and funding sources for the survey were also discussed; Andy Delaney will make an inquiry as to the status of available Municipal Planning Grant funds, and what actions may need to occur to pursue them. Town Manager Greg Maggard also indicated that there is money in the town budget for planning services. He offered to assist in looking into whether some of those funds could be allocated toward the survey.
7. **Next Meeting / Agenda Items.** Next meeting will be Wednesday, September 20<sup>th</sup> [7:00 PM at the Bethel Town Office]. Agenda Item: Survey for 2019 Town Plan Update.
8. **Adjourn.** 8:00 PM.