



TOWN OF GARLAND
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PLANNING BOARD
MINUTES

Tuesday, 3/8/2022

1. Call to order and quorum: Present – Ed, Nathan, Ursula, Robert

2. Approval of minutes of 2/15/22

Motion: Robert Second: Ursula Vote: Unanimous

3. Correspondence

- E-mail from Karen Stone re: ARPA funds
 - Deadline for fund obligation is 2024
 - Multiple categories in which projects can qualify for funding
 - ARPA funds can't be used as matching funds with other State or Fed monies (e.g. can't use ARPA funds for well if State monies also used)
 - The more documentation (minutes, agendas etc.) the better
 - Karen has electronic folder for ARPA

- Letter from Dave Carmichael regarding wording that Dave found ambiguous concerning the definition of "abutter" and how that might affect notifying nearby and abutting land owners. Dave Carmichael was present; it was agreed upon we can have a discussion of any problem wording during the Town Meeting and then have a vote with the understanding that the Planning Board could still make changes to any wording that is problematic whether or not the ordinance passes.

4. Town map initiative (Peter, Phil): The town office has electronic spreadsheets and documents from road history research efforts in 1996, 2016 and 2022 stored on hard drive in highway department folder. Some of this information is linked to town warrant articles but more work needs to be done. Lori, the part-time clerk in the town office works on this as time allows. Peter is coordinating with her to avoid duplication of efforts. Progress is being made.

5. Special projects: (Nathan, Peter, Ursula)
 - Well Project (Peter): Tom Todd connected with his contact at Maine Rural Water Association. Tom is working on getting a representative to come talk to the Planning Board in April or May to discuss the project and potential sources of funding for town well. No state or fed funding available.

 - Millet Road Bridge – on hold

 - Housing rehab: (Nathan) Penquis funding - there is more money available due to Federal Grant funding for multiple areas. Anyone age 62 or over is eligible to apply. Nathan will work to send out survey postcards to Town residents and would use those to connect eligible residents with Penquis to apply for rehab funding/work

 - Public Service Equipment Grant funding (Ursula/Nathan): Ursula has spoken with the FD about an inventory of FD assets that may need replacement. Per Nathan, USDA has funds available for public service equipment with guidelines for creating a list of applicable equipment for a funding request.

6. Climate Action Advisory Committee: (Ed): Ed has contacted the Augusta group and has received reference materials. Ed presented required actions to enroll in the Climate Action Partnership. There are also Grant funds available to support these activities. Road Flood readiness (Garland Pond, Kenduskeag Stream are areas of concern re flash flooding. Coping with drought - Other extreme weather conditions (Hurricane and High Wind damage) Ice Storms,. Review of Town

plans/policies/ordinances. Community Action Grants are available to support these efforts, these can be matched by state funds.

Motion to approve Ed contacting the Augusta Climate Action Group for further information to engage in preparing a plan for this item from Nathan, 2nd by Ursula
Passed by unanimous vote.

7. Broad band initiative: (Ursula and Robert): Letter received by Ursula from Bill Varney at Premium Choice Broadband regarding process for ARPA fund allocation for Broadband. Ed will discuss with Gina and Karen. Per Bill Varney, ToG needs to approve/define funding commitment for Broadband to allow PCB to begin grant request process.
 8. Solar initiative with other area towns (Ed and Ursula): There is interest from the Select Board if this can be done without Town funds. Effort to partner with other towns, need to pursue with Exeter, Stetson, Charleston, poss. Kenduskeag. Ed will work on contacting surrounding towns to gauge interest in a joint effort.
 9. Subdivision Ordinance: See Correspondence for latest input.
 10. New business: Nathan proposed a permit tracking framework, possibly map-based, to track building types, work done, etc. For future consideration.
 11. Public comments: None
 12. Adjournment
- Motion: Nathan Second: Ursula Vote: Unanimous
- Meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM