



**TOWN OF GARLAND**  
**P.O BOX 36**  
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**PLANNING BOARD**  
**Minutes 1/11/2022**

1. Call to order: 5:57

Declaration of quorum: Present: Ed Hummel, Peter Devine, Nathan Pitts, Ursula Bernier, Robert Goings

2. Approval of minutes of 12/13/21: Moved and accepted

Motion:   Nathan   Second:   Ursula   Vote   5  /  0  /  0  

3. Communications:

- Letter from Maine Dept. of Agriculture re: Timber Harvesting section of Shoreland Zoning Ordinance requesting clarification. Ed remembered that in 2016 or 2017, the town removed the section on Timber Harvesting and aligned Garland's ordinance with the State's model ordinance. Karen Stone (Admin) to respond to Dept. of Ag. with that information.
  - Email correspondences between Ed and Vaughan Woodruff, Guy Marshall of Revision Energy and Karen Stone.
  - Email from Kandie requesting resignation from Planning Board due to personal issues.
4. Report on town map initiative: passed over – waiting for CEO Phil Stevens to be ready to work with the E-911 system mapping.
5. Report on special projects: Nathan reported that there are 500 mailing addresses in Garland. If the Planning Board used postcards as a method of communication, mailing would cost about \$250 per mailing. Nathan reviewed the following four potential projects:
- a. Elderly housing: Penquis CAP is the lead agency for projects of this nature. Nathan was in contact with them and they will be willing to come and speak to the Planning Board and/or citizens at a public meeting
  - b. Millet Rd bridge: Still need engineering information which Karen Stone needs for budget
  - c. Transfer Station: Next steps waiting on state to publish Requests for Proposals

d. Water Supply for Town Office: No new information. Nathan further discussed forming a "Grant Committee" to do further research and pursue grants. Peter and Ursula agreed to participate. Sue Watson (former selectperson and grant writer) was suggested as another potential member.

6. Update on Broadband Initiative: Ursula reported she had been in email contact with Bill Varney of Premium Choice Broadband expressing interest in possibly joining Exeter in pursuing broadband development. Bill responded that he is putting together a proposal including Exeter, Garland, Stetson and Charleston and will have it for our review "shortly".
7. Report on Solar Initiative: Ed contacted Vaughan Woodruff. Vaughn referred Ed to Guy Marshall of Revision Energy, and they discussed a possible solar array for Town buildings using grants at no cost to town. Karen provided Guy with electrical usage records for all town buildings for 2019. Guy will get back to Ed with an analysis and outline the potential for array development. Apparently the political and economic climate is better now for town solar projects. Funding for large solar arrays may be of interest to outside investors for 5 year cycles. Concern was raised by Peter about costs and responsibility for decommissioning at some point, given reported array life span of approximately 25 years.
8. Review of proposed subdivision ordinance: Because Planning Board already had a public hearing on the proposed ordinance and since then have made minimal revisions, Maine Municipal through Karen suggested there is no need for another hearing. We do, however, need to be prepared to answer questions at town meeting.
9. Budget proposal for the coming year: Ed reported that he suggested Karen include legal fees for four lawyer reviews. Budgeting for postcard communications at \$250.00 per communication, and official notifications/advertisements for public hearings was also discussed.
10. New Business:
  - Robert has agreed to step up to be a regular PB member and Kandie has agreed to be an alternate. The adjustment will be referred to the Select Board.
  - Nathan reminded us that the CEO, Phil Stevens has no job description. This appears to be an issue for the Select Board.
  - Nathan reported that the fire department is in need of two sets of turnout gear. Ursula agreed to research possible grants.
  - Ursula brought up communications with respondents to broadband survey. She will send a mass email updating folks possible collaboration with adjacent towns and Premium Choice as well as recent improvements by Premium Choice.
  - Ursula expressed an interest in participating in a Maine Municipal webinar. It was suggested she contact Karen to sign up.
11. Public Comment: none
12. Adjournment: 7:06

