

Special Meeting minutes

ALL WELCOME
Jamaica Planning Commission (JPC) – Meeting minutes
Special Meeting
January 18, 2022
7:00 pm

Members present: Bryan Zieroff, Charlie Peck, Chris Robbins, Patrick McQuillan & John Sohikian

Jamaica Town Offices, 28 Town Office Rd
Jamaica VT 05343

Meeting called to order at: 7:01pm

1. Additions to the agenda - none
2. Approved the draft minutes of the December 6, 2021, JPC regular meeting with a typo correction noted and corrected
3. Review any pertinent incoming mail - none
4. Update on the Jamaica Communications Committee initiatives
 - a The status of DVfiber's broadband project was reported to the select board at their previous meeting including the prospect that DVfiber would ask their member towns to consider expending part of the ARPA town funds on broadband.
 - b One possible approach would be to issue a letter of credit to DVFiber which would allow the timely purchase of long lead time equipment in advance of receiving construction grant funding. The Select board was open to the idea and looked forward to receiving a more detailed briefing.
 - c DVfiber is considering joining the Equal Access to Broadband (EAB) non-profit foundation to address subsidizing subscription fees and/or connection costs for those who cannot afford them. The goal will be to expand this organization to include all CUDs. This is considered a far more effective way to meet the mission requirement to provide broadband for all than the formation of individual foundations by each CUD.
5. Update on Community Septic program grant application
 - a State official noted that the application is being processed but said it should be done this week. Town Engineer will follow up.

6. Strategy planning/discussion on sourcing gravel supply for Town use.
 - a Based on information provided by the road department, the Selectboard has indicated that the sand and gravel yard that Jamaica uses for road spreading is on the verge of running out.
 - b The Selectboard asked the JPC to investigate options for the future supply of gravel, including any alternate suppliers, or having the Town purchase land to operate our own sand and gravel operation (Similar to the Town of Newfane who is going through the Act 250 process to operate their own sand and gravel supply).
 - c The initial JPC review include a look at our current operation, where the roads have not been maintained or repaired in accordance with the Town Road and Bridge Standards, and that winter spreading includes the use of cur-pak materials that include stone dust and absorb water.
7. Bryan and Chris volunteered to take on the task of confirming all local gravel suppliers, the estimated use window for each supplier, and regulatory impacts.
Other business - none
8. Public concerns - none
9. Calendar: The next regular JPC meeting is scheduled for February 7, 2022, at 7:00 pm
10. Adjourned meeting at: 8:00 pm