

Jamaica Planning Commission (JPC)
Draft Meeting Minutes - Regular Meeting
November 20, 2023
Jamaica Town Offices, 28 Town Office Road
Jamaica VT 05343

Commissioners present: Bryan Zieroff, Charlie Peck, Chris Robbins

Public present: Lexa Clark, Karen Ameden

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. There were no additions to the agenda
2. The October 16, 2023 draft meeting minutes were approved as written, by unanimous vote of members present.
3. There was discussion of the Municipal Planning Grant (MPG) application that was submitted on November 1 by the WRC, acting as agent for the Town of Jamaica. Grant award decisions will be made by DHCD in December of this year, and the town will be notified if the grant is awarded. Charlie stated that he thinks that some of the public information and outreach actions described in the application may be difficult for the JPC to accomplish, and that some “fine tuning” of those action steps may be needed if the grant is awarded.

It was noted that the application states that the town wishes to include the development of strategies and procedures to implement the Municipal Roads General Permit (MRGP) in the town plan update process. Charlie pointed out that, if the Selectboard and Road Commissioner have indicated that this is needed, it should be done immediately, not delayed for two years during the development of the 2025 Town Plan. This is because the town is required by law to implement and comply with all of the provisions and requirements of the MRGP (a Stormwater Discharge Permit issued pursuant to state and federal water quality laws) at all times, and is not permitted to delay implementation or compliance until the updated Town Plan is developed and adopted. Charlie noted that, if the Selectboard and Road Commissioner feel that this is needed, the JPC, WRC, and Vtrans can all provide information, suggestions and guidance in the very near future – there is no need to, and there are good reasons not to, put this off for two years. Bryan will follow up on this issue with the Selectboard and Road Commissioner.

4. Lexa Clark inquired about the status of the Community Wastewater Treatment Facility feasibility study. Bryan replied that the consultant, Dufresne Group, has indicated that they are near completion of obtaining state-required site assessment data, such as the hydrogeologic flow model. He anticipates that the public information and discussion meetings, and preparation of the 90% draft report, will be completed in early 2024.

Karen Ameden stated that she had spoken recently with WRC Executive Director Chris Campany, who indicated that the WRC could provide assistance with the project if the town so requests. She also stated that Chris Campany had indicated that, if the town wants WRC assistance, this

should be requested as soon as possible, not delayed until “the last minute”. Byran will discuss this with project engineer Chrissy Haskins and follow up as necessary.

5. Chris provided a summary of the DVfiber CUD annual report, which has been distributed to JPC and Selectboard members and is available for public inspection on the DVfiber website.
6. No other business was brought up.
7. There were no stated public concerns or comments.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.