

PLANNING COMMISSION
TOWN OF IRA, VERMONT

IPC Meeting Minutes 12/4/2025

Town Hall 6pm (moved from town offices)

Attending: Bob Kirbach (chair), Bob Toppin, Sean Beatty (RRPC rep.); Jeff Barden unable to attend.

Call to order at 6:02pm.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Introductions and a welcome to our guest Mr. Beatty.

Presentation by Rutland Region Planning Commission representative Sean Beatty on procedures to be taken to meet the requirements needed to renew the Ira Town Plan which will expire in 2028. Sean pointed out some of the steps the Ira Planning Commission will have to follow over the next two and a half years to accomplish the task. Accordingly, the IPC should schedule regular meetings to prepare for this. A meeting notice will be posted early in 2026 so we can address our future path.

Sean said our commission should be aware of how different new legislative Acts, such as Act 174 and 181, may affect our work. Energy planning, inclusivity, our place within the state vision, transportation goals, actionable items, are all themes the IPC will have to ingest. Bob Toppin mentioned that nothing gets done without grant money and told our guest how the town hall building was saved and other projects around town were realized from grants. It was pointed out that eligibility for larger grants depends on a well-crafted town plan. After comparing Ira to neighboring towns Sean recommended that our commission be increased to five members. Bob Kirbach suggested the idea be brought to the select board; no motion was made. Five copies of the present Ira Town Plan will be printed and sent to us by the RRPC. No other business followed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

Recorded by: R. Kirbach