

Westmoreland Planning Board Approved Minutes

November 20, 2023

Attending: Lauren Bressett, Bruce Smith, Liana Capra, Larry Siegel, Alison Fissette, Tim Thompson, John Stronk (alt.) Kristen Riley (Alt., clerk), John Snowdon (selectman)

Excused: Bruce Smith

Guests: Laurie Burt (zoning administrator), Jim + Michelle Larkin, Kelly Jarvis, Brian Merry

Lauren Bressett called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm John Stronk was seated to replace Bruce Smith.

Review of Minutes: 10/16/23

John Snowdon noted that the Conservation Commission should say Cheshire Conservation Commission. Liana Capra moves to accept the minutes with changes, Alison seconds that motion. 6 vote in favor, Tim Thompson abstains.

Informational Hearings

Jim Larkin with questions for site plan review.

Kelly Jarvis with questions for site plan review.

Code Enforcement

Alison said we should consider a code enforcer. John Snowdon said he has been wavering on this subject. The board of selectmen feels that the ordinances should be professionally reviewed. If the town adds a code enforcement officer, this would be a continuous expense. If the board had the ordinances reviewed professionally, this would be a one time expense. Alison Fissette and Lauren Bressett both recalled speaking with multiple lawyers about reviewing the ordinances. They said that this isn't something that they have done before for other towns.

Larry Siegel said that he thinks with the cultural shift over the past few years, a code enforcement officer may not be welcomed by the town. He thinks that education is the larger issue.

Alison mentioned including code enforcement in the zoning administrator job description. Laurie Burt said she would be willing to take this on. She could act as the liaison between the select board and the complaint. She could do the research and report to the board of selectmen. With an increased scope of work, the board discussed adding a stipend of \$1,500 to cover this additional work. John Snowdon will discuss this further with the select board.

Ordinance Reorganization

Lauren suggested divvying up sections in the ordinances.

Tim-structures

Alison-lots

Liana-non residential

Kristen-performance standards

Review of Regulations

Alison moved to adjourn the meeting. Liana Capra seconded that motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:27 pm.

Recorded by Kristen Riley. Clerk.