

Town of Warren  
Planning Commission  
Minutes of Meeting  
Monday May 23, 2016

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Members Present: Mike Ketchel, Mike Bridgewater, Jim Sanford, Randy Graves, Camilla Behn and Dan Raddock.

Others Present: Kevin Camara, Eric Brattstrom, Dotty Kyle, Miron Malboeuf and Ruth Robbins.

Agenda: Call the meeting to order, 7:30 pm

1. Opportunity for Public Comment 7:30 7:45
2. Warren Main St. Improvement Project, Kevin Camara LPM
  - a. Results of RFP for Selection of Design Engineer
  - b. Follow up actions
3. Chapter 3. - Warren Town Plan, revised language ( Draft)
4. Town Garage, Alternative Sites
5. Proposed Tree Ordinance
6. List of topics for 2016 Town Plan update, topics listed to date:
  - a. Update of maps, CDM SMITH
  - b. Inclusionary language for green infrastructure
  - c. Update for the housing distribution plan.
7. Review & sign minutes May 9th, 2016 draft
8. Other & New business:

Mr. Ketchel called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm.

The first item of business was a report from the Warren Main Street Improvement Project Project Manager, Kevin Camara on the response(s) to the Request for Proposal that was issued. Unfortunately of the seven respondents none of them could were interested in the project. It was either too small, they were too busy, not a good fit and a couple felt the budget cap was too limiting and too low for the scope of work. Mr. Camara did tell the Commission that there was a lot of this kind of work out there and that firms could afford to pick and choose the ones they thought would be a good fit. After some discussion it was determined that they needed to see if there were any smaller firms that might fit the bill and check to see how hard and fast the \$34,000 budget number was. Mr. Camara also said he would do his own cost estimate to see if the budget number was accurate.

The modifications discussed at the last meeting to Chapter 3 of the Town Plan have not yet been incorporated into the document so this agenda item was continued until the next meeting. The Town Garage item was also continued as the proposed committee of two-members from the PC and two-members from the Select Board have yet to meet.

The next item up for discussion was a continuation of a conversation about a Town Tree Ordinance. The Town Tree Warden, Ms. Moffroid wanted to be at the meeting but was unable to attend. She did however exchanged an email with Mr. Ketchel as well as had a conversation which he shared with the Commission. Ms. Moffroid told him that she felt a town ordinance would help provide a vehicle to furthering education about trees and would show the townspeople she had the support of the Select Board even though she does have the State Tree ordinance. PC members made comments ranging from not particularly liking the State tree

ordinance to a question about how our roads are maintained damaging “public” trees and how that should be dealt with. Another comment made was that the value of Warren’s real estate is largely dependent on what happens on other people’s land. The members felt it would be important to continue this discussion at a time when Ms. Moffroid could be part of the conversation.

The Commission reviewed and signed the minutes of May 9<sup>th</sup>. In new and other business the topic of whether or not the Town would utilize some grant monies for an EV charging station was discussed. It was thought that the Select Board was not overly enthusiastic about it being located at the Municipal Building parking area which is where the PC thinks it ideally should be placed. A possible second choice [or additional/second location] would be the Millstone Park & Ride. *Mr. Graves made a motion to formally tell the Select Board that the Planning Commission highly recommends that an EV Station be located at the Warren Municipal Building parking lot. The motion was seconded by Mr. Sanford and the vote was unanimously in favor.* Mr. Sanford then reported to the PC on the last MRVPD Steering Committee meeting saying that they spent time on discussing “why” the Steering Committee exists. Though the original formation of the MRVPD was a result of a MOU with Sugarbush Resort, Mr. Sanford said that the feeling of the committee members was more about maintaining and fostering the beauty and connectedness of the valley. He also told the PC that the new person working with the Executive Director would be starting June 6<sup>th</sup>. A member of the Warren Energy Committee was in the audience, Ms. Kyle, and she reported on her involvement with following S. 230 in the state legislature which will allow municipalities more of a say in the placement of renewable energy projects in their communities.

Mr. Ketchel noted that at the next meeting on June 13<sup>th</sup> they could expect the revised Chapter 3, a report from Mr. Camara, and the continuing conversation about a tree ordinance with the Tree Warden, Ms. Moffroid.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Ruth V. Robbins  
DRB/PC Assistant

**Planning Commission**

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Mike Ketchel                      date

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Randy Graves                      date

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Jim Sanford                      date

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Camilla Behn                      date

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Mike Bridgewater                      date

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Dan Raddock                      date