

Town of Starksboro  
Planning Commission meeting  
Minutes of June 2, 2022  
Draft

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Board members present: Dennis Casey, Dan Nugent, Jeff Keeney, Denny Barnard, David Schmidt, Brad Boss

Unable to attend: Dan Harris

Others present: Kris Perlee (ZA), Alexis Thompson

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The meeting was called to order to 7:15 p.m. by Chair Dennis Casey. The meeting was in person at the Town Office and via Zoom

### Visitor's Business –

### Current Business

#### **Approve May 19, 2022 Minutes**

Motion to approve with corrections by J. Keeney, 2<sup>nd</sup> D. Barnard. So voted (6-0)

#### **Discussion of MAUSD Merger Plans**

D. Casey gave update. The Merger Study group met with the school boards of Mt. Abe and Vergennes. Oliver Olsen, the chair of the Vermont Board of Education feels that Lincoln and Ripton will fail. Ripton will be the first to fail and he hopes to make an example of them. Act 46 requires the Board of Education to assign a SU to a school that leaves, but no such action has been done for Ripton. The Starksboro SOS still has a lot of work ahead of them. A discussion occurred over the roles of the Superintendent and the school boards.

#### **Zoning Updates**

Chris from ACCT was not able to attend. K. Perlee will reach out to her to see if she can attend the next meeting. K. Perlee presented the study that ACCT did around the parks that they own. K. Perlee will email this out to the PC. A discussion around their septic upgrade occurred. D. Casey stated Chris Acker would be willing to come in and meet with the board to discuss development of his property. Group would like to continue the mapping process.

#### **PC Roundtable**

J. Keeney began discussing the ARPA funding group that he is a member of. He explained that the group is 9 people, and they will review and rank each request. They will then send their suggestions to the Selectboard who will ultimately make the decision on how to spend the \$521,000. A discussion around possible infrastructure upgrades the town might look at like water and sewer. The PC agreed that sewer was not a viable option but focusing on water would be most beneficial. A discussion around options for water system upgrades occurred. D. Casey will reach out to the water board to see if they would like to meet with the PC.

There was also a discussion around finding a consultant to help with economic planning. K. Perlee explained that finding a consultant is hard right now and most are booked out a couple of years. K. Perlee will work on an RFP and will share with the PC once complete.

Next meeting: **June 16, 2022**

**Motion to adjourn at 9:20 p.m.:** B. Boss moved, D. Nugent second. (So voted 6-0)