

Shrewsbury Planning Commission
MINUTES
December 10, 2024
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Shrewsbury Town Office
9823 Cold River Rd., Shrewsbury VT

Shrewsbury Planning Commission

7:00 to 7:15 p.m. Open to public input

Following public input:

1. Call to order
Meeting called to order at 7:05
Attendees: Laura Black, Ryan Fitzbeauchamp, Conner Self, and Melissa Reichert
2. Approval of agenda, review and/or revision
Agenda approved as presented.
3. Acceptance of meeting minutes of November 12, 2024
Meeting minutes accepted as written.
4. Rounds and mail (SPC members' updates and review PC mail received)
Conner commented on the links that Melissa sent on Land use and Renewable Energy and the Farm to Plate Strategic Plan from the Department of Agriculture. Conner will keep looking into it. Ryan reminded us that he is stepping off the Planning Commission but still wants to stay involved on a limited basis. Ryan said that someone has reached out to him about the Planning Commission and expressed that it is a good way for someone to learn about the town and town government. Laura will have a draft of the Town report for us to review at the next meeting. The report is due January 17, 2025
5. Class 4 Road policy review of changes
We reviewed the latest draft of the Class 4 road policy. We also discussed the Selectboard minutes on the use of Old Plymouth Rd by snowmobiles and whether it fits with statute. Laura is proposing new language for V. Work in the ROW #3 and 4.
 3. Tree and Brush Removal. Vermont State statute describes the Selectboard's authority to remove trees and bushes within the limits of Class 4 highways, as follows: "The legislative body of a municipality, if necessary, shall cause to be cut and burned, or removed from within the limits of the highways under its care, trees and bushes that obstruct the view of the highway ahead or that cause damage to the highway or that are objectionable from a material or scenic standpoint." *(Cite as: 19 V.S.A. § 904)*

4. Protection of Trees. Vermont State statute describes the intent to preserve trees within the right-of-way of Class 4 highways, as follows: “Young trees standing at a proper distance from the roadbed and from each other, and banks and hedges of bushes that serve as a protection to the highway or add beauty to the roadside, shall be preserved.” (*Cite as: 19 V.S.A. § 904*)

Planning Commission agreed with the changes.

5. Review Community Values Mapping consolidations

We reviewed Laura’s consolidation of the Mark-ups but did not discuss her general notes and questions in depth.

6. Town Plan revision strategy

- Review Ryan’s redundancies
 - 4.23 economic base and 7.1 both say Spring Lake Ranch is the Towns largest employer
 - 4.2.2 and 4.3.3.2 Paragraph on forest lands is repeated.

7. Clean-up in the back room and holiday cheer

Great progress was made cleaning out the shelves in the back room.

8. To do list review – same list as before

- a. Scenic Resources - Melissa
- b. Town Plan Maps discussion - Conner
 - Meadowlands review - Ryan

Next meeting January 14, 2025

9. Adjourn

Planning Commission, Chair

Date