

Town of Grantham
Master Plan Committee Meeting
March 20, 2017

Thain Allan called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room of the Grantham Town Hall located at 300 Route 10 South in Grantham, NH.

Present: Thain Allan, Bob MacNeil, Gene Martin, Mary Hutchins, Adam Ricker (UVLSRPC)
Meeting minutes: Nikki Arsenault

Upcoming Meeting Dates:

March 27, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.
April 3, 2017 at 12:00 p.m.

Administrative:

Chair Allan asked for comments or corrections to the following meeting minutes:

January 23, 2017 meeting minutes – No changes – Martin made a motion to accept the minutes as written; MacNeil seconded the motion. All in favor.

February 27, 2017 meeting minutes – No changes – Martin made a motion to accept the minutes as written; MacNeil seconded the motion. All in favor.

March 6, 2017 meeting minutes – Changes submitted – MacNeil made a motion to accept the minutes as amended; Martin seconded the motion. All in favor.

New Business:

Municipal Services – following some questions regarding the school budget, it was agreed that Ricker would contact Jacqueline Guillette for a paragraph for this section. MacNeil noted that the budget for a custodial position (2018) was approved; Ricker agreed to follow up on this with the Town Administrator. Allan added that it would also be possible to remove that the municipal complex was constructed in 2005; the Committee agreed to simply remove the word “new” in the sentence describing the municipal facilities. Allan suggested that the introduction sentence to the Police section be “The Police Department is located in...” Ricker agreed to check on the statistics regarding current staffing and equipment numbers. Allan further suggested adding a sentence about the assistance the Town has received from the State Police.

Fire Department – Ricker will attempt to obtain the 2016 figures to update this section. Allan added that they may also want to add a statement about the “fob” keys that the Fire Chief discussed with the Planning Board. The group agreed that this could be added to the “Communications” section. Ricker will follow up with the Fire Chief to ensure that the entirety

of this section is accurate; i.e. do these statements pertain to the current year or are these projections over the next several years? Ricker will also confirm that FAST squad numbers are accurate. Following a comment from MacNeil regarding cell phone coverage/towers/repeater towers, Ricker suggested adding a statement that coverage was good but not absolute; MacNeil added that a statement could be added to reflect that other methods could be researched rather than adding new (repeater) towers.

Road/Transportation – Public Works – Ricker will check in with Jeff Hastings regarding the current numbers. Transfer Station – Allan suggested adding a statement reiterating the importance of recycling as an opportunity to reduce cost. MacNeil noted that the statement “continuing to experience growth” should be changed to reflect that the rate of growth has, for the most part, levelled out. Following some discussion, it was agreed that this section (Capital Improvement Program) would be removed and Ricker will check with the Town Administrator to confirm how to best update this section. Grantham Village School – Ricker will remove the section regarding adding to school and/or building a new school.

Traffic Lights (?) – Consider adding “to continue to review the need for...”

Policing recommendations – Allan suggested referring to the CIP in this section.

Transfer Station recommendations – Allan noted that it is important that recycling “recommendations” are both efficient and economical.

“Continuously strive to improve the ISO rating...” and remove the number associated.

Cultural and Historic Resources – Who is the Town archivist? Ricker will add information about the playing fields – what has been done in the last 10 years? Allan suggested adding “in addition to the public facilities available...” i.e. Grantham Indoor and Eastman with an updated list of free (and paid) offerings. The Blue Mountain Snow Dusters was also suggested as a resource (trails). GVS recreational opportunities can also be updated to reflect the new Outdoor Classroom. Ricker confirmed with Allan that the Open Space map is now available and this section can be updated to that effect. Following a comment from MacNeil, the section regarding the powers of Town Boards and Officials will be updated to “continue to encourage Town Boards and Officials to evaluate impacts on cultural and historic resources as development arises.”

Next step – a full revised draft ready for review. Ricker will provide updated chapters prior to the next meeting so that Committee members can review and comment.

Adjournment

MacNeil made a motion to adjourn.

Allan seconded the motion. All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:10 p.m.

The next Master Plan Committee meeting will take place on Monday, March 27, 2017 in the Jerry Whitney Memorial Conference Room of the Grantham Town Hall at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nikki Arsenault

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