Windham Planning Commission

Meeting Minutes

4/11/18

Present:

Vance Bell

Tom Johnson

Bill Dunkel

Jeff Wheeler

Chris Cummings

Kate Wright

Meeting called to order at 6:36.

Review of minutes from last meeting. Motion to accept by Vance, seconded by Chris. No discussion. All approved.

WRC met last week. This was an opportunity for public to make comments on the WRC Regional Energy Plan. Overall, most expressed that any wind development should be prohibited. A meeting tomorrow may include more people from Brattleboro who may have a different perspective and be more accepting of wind development. Bill suggests that anyone who cannot attend the meeting consider writing a letter to express their views.

On April 24th a meeting by WRC will vote on whether to accept the WRC Regional Energy Plan. Bill asks how the PC wants him to vote. There are no disagreements about how Bill will represent PC. ………

Question about whether resource lands or special resource lands are determined – by town? Does WRC determine whether resource or special resource lands are acceptable for wind development?

Review of Section 209 of Zoning Regulations. Recommendation by lawyer of 2500 feet setback from wind turbines is acceptable by PC.

Regarding bond posted by loggers – suggestion to make the bond a requirement of securing a logging permit. PC will eliminate Section 503.3 from zoning regs as it will be overseen by select board. Change language to “commercial loggers must secure a permit prior to beginning logging operation.” Suggest select board secure a $500 bond as part of acquiring a permit.

Regarding 708C3: Suggest changing “new” to “rebuild/replace”

This concludes the PC revisions based on the public hearing. The Zoning Regulations are ready for review by the Select Board. Vance will send final draft to them.

Discussion about whether the PC should meet with the Energy Committee. Not at this point until we hear back from the Energy Committee.

Next meeting scheduled for May 17 with the Energy Committee at 5:30 if acceptable with the Energy Committee.

Motion to adjourn by Bill seconded by Jeff. All approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:37.