

Place: Raymond High School; Media Center

Call to Order: 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Bill Cantwell, Chairman; Peter Buckingham, Vice Chairman; Steve Naoum, Secretary; Frank Bourque, Selectmen's Ex-Officio; Jonathan Wood; Gretchen Gott; Carolyn Matthews.

Staff Present: Ernest Creveling, Community Development Director; Robert Price, Planning Technician.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chairman Cantwell requested a moment of silent in memory of Robert Forsing.

Master Plan Meeting

Jack Munn of Southern NH Planning Commission brought Al Poulias, Construction Supervisor with National Grid, new owner of Keyspan, Inc. with him to answer questions about the feasibility of bringing natural gas to Raymond. Mr. Poulias stated that the closest area they could bring gas from is Hooksett, which is 12.5 miles away. He stated there are a lot of environmental road blocks and lots of state highways to get through, as well as needing approval from the Public Utilities Commission. He stated it would cost an estimated \$26 million to accomplish this.

Bill Cantwell asked if National Grid has any plans for expansion. Mr. Poulias stated he is unsure, but he noted that Keyspan's goal was to expand in New Hampshire.

Steve Naoum asked if it would be possible to construct mains above-ground as opposed to below-ground. Mr. Poulias stated that they are not allowed to construct mains above-ground for a variety of reasons.

The Board thanked Mr. Poulias for his time. The Planning Board requested that Jack Munn invite Northern Utilities of Portsmouth to be asked the same questions to see if it is more feasible to come from the east rather than the west.

Master Plan Vision Statement

Frank Bourque requested that the Planning Board add the slogan that appears on the signs that are posted as you enter Raymond that reads "preserving our past, preparing for the future" in honor of Robert Forsing. Jonathan Wood suggested having a photo of the sign in this area as well.

The Planning Board discussed further ways to revise the vision statement, and the Board decided that they would like to see the language of RSA 642:II(a) inserted.

Draft Vision and Goals Chapter

Frank Bourque stated he is struggling with the recommended action on page 16 that recommends creation of more workforce housing, adding that he feels Raymond currently has an adequate supply of workforce housing. Carolyn Matthews stated she would like to get more information on this subject. Jack Munn stated there are currently

bills in the State House and Senate relating to this issue. He noted that both the American Planning Association and the New Hampshire Association of Regional Planning Commissions have both recommended against the proposed legislation.

The Planning Board agreed that they would like to continue reviewing this chapter at subsequent Master Plan meetings, to ensure that goals and objectives are constantly being reviewed throughout the Master Plan process.

Natural Resources Chapter

The Planning Board continued their review of the Natural Resources draft chapter, finishing their comments. Any further comments from the Conservation Commission are to be given directly to the Planning Commission.

Economic Development Chapter

The Planning Board began to review the draft Economic Development Chapter of the Master Plan. Paul McCoy and Kathy Hoelzel both issued comments on the draft as members of the public, and not as members of any other Board or Committee. The Planning Board requested that when this chapter is taken up again, other members of the Raymond Business and Economic Development Council please attend and offer any comments or suggestions they have.

Other Business

Jonathan Wood stated the Conservation Commission is talking to the Epping Conservation Commission regarding a 100-200 acre parcel of land located along Stingy River Road that straddles the Town Line. He stated the goal of conserving this area would be to protect the Pawtuckaway River.

Jonathan Wood noted that the Conservation Commission held its Election of Officers. He stated that he is now the Chairman, Cheryl Killam is the Vice Chairman, and Cody Cramer is the Treasurer.

Frank Bourque stated the Board of Selectmen would like to hold a work session with the School Board to discuss the sharing to services with other communities.

Gretchen Gott stated there is a bill in the House that is being drafted that will allow recordings of meetings to be accepted as an official record.

Peter Buckingham stated the Raymond Business and Economic Development Council will be discussing a list of goals once membership is determined in April. He noted that currently the goal is to focus on developing the Route 27 corridor and also focus on Exits 4 and 5. He added that volunteers for the RBEDC are needed.

Gretchen Gott voiced concern with what appears to have been a cut-and-paste from other documents to help formulate several chapters of the Master Plan.

Adjournment

MOTION: Jonathan Wood made a motion to adjourn. Frank Bourque seconded. The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 7-0-0. Meeting adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Robert Price
Planning Technician