

**Minutes of the
NVDA Regional Approval Hearing and Energy Compliance Hearing
for the Troy Municipal Plan
Thursday, April 30th, 2020 at 4 PM**

From Town Plan Review Committee: Mike Metcalf, Greensboro; Cynthia Stuart, Concord; Gina Vigneault, Norton.

NVDA Staff: Irene Nagle

Representing Town of Troy: Robert Langlands, Troy Selectboard.

Prior to the opening of the Regional Approval hearing, the committee voted to have Mike Metcalf act as Chair. The hearing opened at approximately 4:12 p.m.

The Hearing began with introductions of those present. Mike then explained that the hearing was being held electronically, due to the COVID-19 pandemic pursuant to Addendum 6 to Executive Order 01-20 and Act 92. He confirmed that public access to the meeting was provided through video conference with additional access provided through telephone. Mike also explained that the public notice provided information regarding how to access the meeting. Most participants of the meeting participated through a link set up through Zoom, and Town Plan Committee member Gina Vigneault participated through telephone.

Irene Nagle explained the purpose of regional approval of local plans as per 24 V.S.A. §4350, and the benefits it affords Towns. She noted that NVDA staff provided a review of the Plan and found it had all the required elements and complied with the State planning goals. The Town of Troy has expressed interest in seeking Village Center designation, and regional approval of the Town Plan is one of the requirements for eligibility.

When asked why the Town updated the plan, Robert Langlands explained that plan was expired, and the Town wanted to seek Village Center designation. The most significant updates were the addition of a flood resilience section, and an expanded energy section.

Cynthia asked if thought was given to assigning time frames and responsibility for the action steps noted in the plan. Robert said that assignments were not given, and also noted that two members of the Planning Commission recently resigned and the Selectboard was in the process of filling the vacancies. It was agreed that it would be helpful to have tasks assigned to specific people. Cynthia suggested that a community gathering could help to prioritize action steps.

Mike Metcalf noted that the description of habitat connectors in the Plan was an interesting addition. He asked how the border closures were affecting the Town. Robert said that there was less activity and less traffic passing through the Town and Village. The Town Plan Committee members asked how the wastewater system serving the Troy hamlet was funded, and Robert explained that it was done through a bond, but that Jay Peak had taken considerable responsibility in the funding. In discussing internet access, Robert noted that Troy had not chosen to join a Communications Union District.

Mike noted that the identification of transportation issues and proposed solutions was a helpful feature of the transportation section. Gina noted that overall, the Plan was very well designed.

The Public Hearing on Regional Approval was closed and Gina Vigneault made a motion to support approval of the Plan, seconded by Mike Metcalf and approved by all.

After the close of the Public Hearing on Regional Approval, the hearing on Energy Compliance commenced.

Energy Compliance Hearing

Irene Nagle explained that the Town of Troy has requested a determination of energy compliance pursuant to 24 V.S.A. §4352. This determination requires a staff review using the planning standards checklist created by the VT Department of Public Service. NVDA staff Alison Low completed the energy compliance review and found that the plan met all the required standards.

Once the Plan has been approved by the full NVDA board, a certificate of energy compliance signed by NVDA executive director, David Snedeker, will be issued.

There was no public comment on the subject of energy compliance.

The hearing on energy compliance was closed at approximately 5 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Nagle