

ST. LAWRENCE COUNTY PLANNING BOARD MINUTES

7:00 p.m., Thursday, December 14th, 2023

In person, Public Safety Complex Conference Room, Canton / on Zoom

I. Call to Order

- a. **Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum.** K. O’Neil called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. A roll call was held; a quorum was established.

	NAME	ABSENT	PRESENT		NAME	ABSENT	PRESENT
1.	Ken Bellor		X		Staff:		
2.	Kim Bisonette		X		Jason Pfothenhauer		X
3.	Don Chambers	X			Preston Santimaw		X
4.	Priscilla Darling		X (on zoom)		Guests:		
5.	Daniel Fay		X		Margaret Mauch		X
6.	Laura Foster		X				
7.	Ed Fuhr		X				
8.	Andy Gilbert (Secretary)		X				
9.	Dan Huntley		X (on zoom)				
10.	Robin McClellan		X				
11.	Kitty O’Neil (Chair)		X				
12.	Julia Rose (Secretary)		X				
13.	Cherrie Shatraw		X				
14.	Vacant						
15.	Vacant						
			12/15				

- b. **Adoption of the Agenda.** O’Neil asked if there were changes to the agenda. Pfothenhauer responded that staff wanted to do a brief overview of the new Solar Development Mapping Tool that staff recently launched on the County Planning webpage. The modified agenda was unanimously adopted (Gilbert/Rose).

- c. **Adoption of the October 12th & November 9th Meeting Minutes.**

The October meeting minutes were unanimously approved (McClellan/Fuhr).

The November minutes were approved (Shatraw/Fuhr). O’ Neil & Bisonette abstained.

II. Public Forum

Margaret Mauch gave an update on the status of the Canton Town code and No Dogs Left Behind.

III. Solar Development Mapping Tool Presentation

Santimaw provided an overview of the County's Solar Development Mapping Tool; where to find it, how to use it, and an overview of its content.

IV. Project Reviews

- a. **Referrals Returned Pursuant to MOU.** Pfothenhauer highlighted details for projects listed in the MOU list and the Addendum. Rose asked about a site plan for a project in Massena (T); were the comments about wetlands and the SEQR submitted to the Town? Santimaw replied that they were.

V. Reports

- a. **Executive Committee.** O'Neil said the Executive Committee met on November 30th to set the meeting agenda and discussed the agenda items.
- b. **Board of Legislators.** Fay reported:
 - Some communities that were reassessed got their taxes increased
 - He does not see much direction with certain projects where government is involved
- c. **Highway Department.** Due to the absence of Don Chambers, there was no County Highway report.
- d. **State of the County Roundtable.**
None.
- e. **Staff Report.** Pfothenhauer reported:
 - The Planning Office may be collaborating with the Village of Heuvelton to do a comprehensive plan in the next calendar year;
 - The County has been administering a septic repair program that can provide up to 50% of the repair cost for septic systems on properties within 250' from select water bodies. The County is currently in the process of reassessing which bodies of water are qualified, and may be eligible for more funds;
 - The Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board met recently to discuss the agricultural district review process and to discuss a letter of support for Cornell Cooperative Extension's regional Ag team, which they sent to the Board of Legislators;
 - Staff have been working on planning for the eclipse that is poised to cover parts of the County in total darkness for several minutes on April 8th, 2024;
 - There have recently been upgrades to the County buses including a new app that will allow riders to check the bus schedule from their phones, as well as new cameras and Wi-Fi on the buses.

VI. Other Items

a. **Correspondence.**

EDF Renewables submitted a second application addendum for its Rich Rd. project in Canton after the last two applications were deemed incomplete. There were also local land use decisions made on projects in the Towns of Brasher, Lawrence, and Macomb.

b. **Election of Officers.**

The board's Chair position was up for re-election. Shatraw nominated O'Neil to continue into a second term as Board Chair. This motion was seconded by Fuhr and unanimously approved by the Board.

Rose held the official vote and O'Neil was unanimously re-elected as chair of the County Planning Board – Congratulations Kitty!

c. **2024 Work Program Discussion.**

Pfotenhauer reviewed the draft work program for the 2024 calendar year. Board members suggested adding trainings on Complete Streets, more overviews on the Solar Development Mapping Tool, and work with housing issues.

McClellan asked what issues staff think will be relevant in the near future.

Pfotenhauer replied that energy will always be a point of emphasis, and that the County's housing stock continues to get older. The modified work program was unanimously adopted (Gilbert/McClellan).

d. **New Member Search.**

With the recent resignation of Heather Sands from the Board, there are now two vacant seats. Staff have seen some interest from community members in filling those seats, but invite more suggestions.

e. **2024 CPB Newsletter with Meeting Dates.**

Staff will need to move the November 2024 executive committee meeting as it falls on Thanksgiving.

f. **Announcements.**

The Board may meet in the Public Safety Complex 2nd Floor Conference Room in January, but will start meeting at the Canton HSC building sometime in 2024.

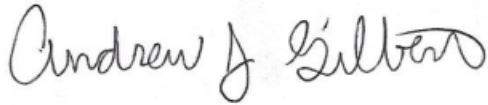
g. **Next meeting dates.**

- i. Executive Committee: Thursday, December 28th, 2023 at 4:00 pm.
- ii. Planning Board: Thursday, January 11th 2024 at 7:00 pm in the 2nd floor conference room of the Public Safety Complex, located at 49 ½ Court Street in Canton. (Location subject to change)

VII. Adjourn

- a. The meeting adjourned at 8:43

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew J. Gilbert". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A' and 'G'.

Andy Gilbert, Secretary

Minutes prepared by P. Santimaw