

This was a public hearing to consider amendments to the Town plan.

Those present in the Town Clerk's office for the 7 p.m. hearing were Board Members, Ben Adams, William Biddle, Gary Briggs, Jonathan Carpenter, Kathleen Crown, Dennis McLam, George Pierce, and Shane Stevenson; Secretary, Shirley Warden; Irene Nagle from NVDA and those on the following list:

ATTENDANCE ZONING/PLANNING MEETING		May 19, 2015
NAME (Legal)	MAILING ADDRESS	(Full)
Please print: Must Give for Future Appeal		
John Bishop	44 STEVENSON RD	BARNET VT. 05821
John Hearison	155 W. Main St	Barnet VT 05821
Janet Hanton	"	" " "
Nancy Bishop	44 Stevenson Rd	Barnet VT 05821
Nerner Kolnke	8 Somerville Rd	Barnet VT 05821
Heidi Kolnke	"	" " "
Deerick Spincile		

Chairman, McLam called the hearing to order at 7:05 p.m. and read the notice as posted and published in the May 5, 2015 issue of THE CALEDONIAN RECORD and as follows:

THE RECORD • TUESDAY, MAY 5, 2015 B8

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Barnet Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed amended Barnet Town Plan at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, May 19th, 2015 at the Barnet Town Clerk's Office, 1743 US Route 5 South, Barnet.

The proposed amendments include the addition of a flood resilience element and updates to various sections of the plan to reflect currently available data. Updated maps depicting land use and land cover, natural resources constraints, soils, and the State-mapped river corridor, are also included.

The Town Plan amendments do not propose to alter the designation of any land area.

The Plan includes the following sections:

1. Introduction
2. Overall Vision
3. Goals
4. Demographic Trends: Community Profile
5. Land Use: Agriculture and Forestry
6. Water Quality: Wetlands, Lakes, Rivers and Ponds
7. Flood Resilience
8. Natural Areas and Wildlife
9. Growth and Development: The Economic Base
10. Housing
11. Village Issues
12. Education
13. Historic, Cultural and Scenic Resources
14. Recreation
15. Transportation
16. Energy and Communications
17. Municipal Services
18. Adjacent Communities
19. Implementation Plan

The full text of the proposed amended Town Plan can be viewed at the Barnet Town Clerk's Office at the above address. Call 802-633-2256 for business hours.

Mr. Heartson asked if the changes would have any significant effect on his property which is in West Barnet village and next to the Stevens River. He also asked what effect the designation as a historic building would have.

It was noted that there were no copies of the draft plan available. there was supposed to be a copy at the town Clerk's office, but Warden couldn't find it and it was not available on line. It was suggested that it be put on line and there be at least 10 copies made for the Select Board hearing.

Warden noted that the Planning Commission years ago made a list of what they considered the historic buildings and sites, this is not a change and there are no restrictions.

Mrs. Heartson asked about Shane Stevenson's plan for the property he recently bought across the road from them.

It was explained that this is not on the agenda for this meeting, This was only warned for a public hearing to consider changes to the Town Plan.

Nagle said nothing in the changed Town Plan changes the use of property or controls the uses allowed. FEMA flood maps determines what is in the flood areas and what would qualify for flood insurance.

Pierce had questions about the effect that the recommended actions would have especially as spelled out in the proposed Zoning By Law changes, that are in draft form and have not been worked on and are not part of this hearing.

He read from Rebecca Pfeiffer's web site about the requirements for infrastructure funding after a disaster has been declared.

Nagle said that Barnet has chosen not to regulate river corridors so this will not change anything and the Selectboard has not adopted the transportation codes and standards.

Pierce suggested changes to the Goals and Recommended actions on page 26 & 49 of the draft plan.

Biddle stated that the Board had worked very hard all winter to find a balance between the least restrictions to property owners and meeting the State Statues and allowing property owners to qualify for flood insurance. He recommended sending the draft Plan to the selectboard for adoption.

After much discussion it was decided by voice vote to change on page 26 & 49 so that the second goal would read "consider changes to the Village Zoning District"; Pierce, Briggs, Biddle & Crown + carpenter voted for this; the 3rd Goal add "consider amending" all voted for this.

On page 22 State River Corridors & Fluvial Erosion change the last sentence to "Although the State does not regulate uses within the river corridor except for uses exempt from local zoning (like agricultural uses) the General recommendation is that new development in such areas should not significantly exacerbate flooding and river erosion". All voted for this.

Briggs said that the Board had worked very hard to make the changes required by law and the least restrictive to Barnet property owners.

Biddle moved to approve the draft of the Barnet Town Plan with the above changes as voted and send the Plan to the Select Board for their adoption. Carpenter seconded and all voted yes.

Warden suggested that maybe as they work on the ByLaw that they invite Rebecca Pfeiffers to come to a meeting. The consensus was this might be a good idea.

The hearing adjourned at 8:30 p.m..

Shirley Warden

Shirley Warden, Secretary
Barnet Planning/Zoning Board

*approved as
corrected
7-7-15
SW.*