

Pomfret Planning Commission

Meeting May 1, 2023 7 pm.
Pomfret, VT.

Approved 6/5/2023

Present: Bill Emmons, Nelson Lamson, John Moore, Doug Tuthill, Karen Hewitt Osnoe (Zoning Administrator).

Absent: Tyler Wellington, Cy Benoit

Guests: Connor Rigney, Allan & Kris Graham, Brad Burrington, Emily Grube, Vern Clifford, Ed and Sue Shuman, Chandler Evans

Call To Order/Agenda Changes/Public Comment:

Bill Emmons called the Planning Commission meeting at 7:05 pm.

Public Comment. None

Bill Emmons introduced Connor Rigney who moderated the forum. Connor went over the basic draft chapters in the town Plan. The points summarized by Connor follow.

Pomfret Town Plan Public Forum Suggestions

Chapter 4: Land Use and Natural Resources

- Consider the impact of future development on sewer and water in South Pomfret Village.
- Consider North Pomfret as a second designated village for future town growth.
- Strike “General Land Use Recommendation #3”

Chapter 5: Energy

- Develop an Energy Committee at the town level, potentially using MERP funds.
- Discourage the use of inefficient heat pumps.

Chapter 6: Transportation

- Look into shared road maintenance services with surrounding towns.

Chapter 7: Town Services and Facilities

- Utilize the town forest as a recreational opportunity (school lot).
- Use MERP funding to bring town hall up to ADA compliance.

Chapter 8: Housing

- Encourage the development of all energy efficient housing.
- Encourage the development of affordable housing in Pomfret.

Chapter 9: Education

- [Data and information updates]

Chapter 10: Economic Development

- Policy 4 (“Principal retail...”): Look at changing language to make softer.
- Encourage economic development that results in better paying jobs, while keeping the manageable growth of the town in mind.
- Emphasize positive vs. negative statements.

General Suggestions

- Look into the impact of AirBnB on Pomfret’s housing stock.
- Discourage AirBnB and short-term rental in town.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

Respectfully submitted:

John Moore, Clerk