

**Pomfret Planning Commission**  
DRAFT Minutes for Monday, February 9, 2015

Attending: Orson St. John; Billy Emmons; Scott Woodward; Nelson Lamson; John Moore via speaker phone

Absent: Tina Feeney , Phil Dechert

The Pomfret Planning Commission was called to order at 7:10 pm.

Motion made by Nelson and Seconded by Orson to approve the minutes of January 12 , 2014, discussion, motion approved.

Motion made by Scott and 2<sup>nd</sup> by John to have SB support the resolution Rutland put forth for Solar panel oversite by the town... Nelson made amendment to also add two rivers to support as well... John 2<sup>nd</sup> the amendment. Conclusion is vote from PC to support: Vote to recommend SB and Two rivers to support as well.

Resolution below:

WHEREAS, The General Assembly has set aggressive goals for the development of renewable energy in Vermont.

WHEREAS, as a result of these aggressive goals the number of certificate of public good (CPG) applications before the Public Service Board (PSB) has increased substantially.

WHEREAS, at best, the current CPG process provided by 30 V.S.A. §248 affords a limited and ineffectual role for Vermont municipalities, municipal planning commissions, and town selectboards. Regardless of the content, scope, or impact on a proposed renewable energy project or a municipality's efforts to have a say in the project's siting, the §248 process and the legal analysis employed by the PSB enable the PSB to disregard and/or

avoid the policies and standards of the very municipality in which the renewable energy project is to be located. By focusing on regional impacts, to the exclusion of local municipal impacts, the PSB routinely ignores the input and evidence offered by Vermont municipalities. As a result, the "due consideration" of municipal viewpoints required by 30 V.S.A. §248(b)(1) has become consideration in name only.

WHEREAS, it has become clear that legislative changes are needed to afford Vermont municipalities a greater say in the approval and siting of renewable energy projects.

THEREFORE, it is RESOLVED by the undersigned Vermont municipalities, to instruct their state representatives and senators to develop amendments to the statutes that concern the siting and approval of renewable energy projects and to the procedures of the PSB in order to ensure that Vermont municipalities have a more meaningful role in the CPG process and to require compliance with appropriately-developed municipal siting standards..

We reviewed the Town Plan 2015 draft and made minor/changes/corrections primarily regarding commercial and private solar.

John made a motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Nelson to submit the draft to the SB with the changes and corrections made this evening... Scott will make the changes, email the draft to the members of the PC, and if after a final read by each member there are no objections from the PC members, Scott will send the draft to the SB.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Submitted,  
John Moore