

TOWN OF STAMFORD
PLANNING COMMISSION MEETING
September 9, 2025
(UNAPPROVED)

Planning Commission: Peter Greenbush, Chair, Alden Finney, Lisa Gramlin, Sheila Lawrence, Stephanie Shelburne, James Stimpson, and David Tatro.
Kurt Gamari, ex officio.
Marta Miller and Dan Potvin were not present.

Visitors: Callie Fishburn, BCRC, Natalie O'Neil, Debra Righi, and James Righi.

Peter Greenbush called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

HEARING OF VISITORS: None.

MINUTES:

MOTION by Jim Stimpson to accept the regular meeting minutes of June 2, 2025 as written.

SECONDED by Alden Finney. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

DISCUSSION:

Callie Fishburn, Regional Planner with the Bennington County Regional Commission, addressed the board regarding the Municipal Planning Grant application. The board was presented with a budget breakdown of costs associated with the grant and BCRC's assistance with work on the Town Plan which expires in June of 2027. If Stamford is awarded the grant a 10% match is required. Grant applications opened on September 1st and are due by November 3rd with grants being awarded early to mid-December. BCRC is currently working on writing the application for Stamford. Three grants are expected to be awarded with 5-6 towns applying.

MOTION by Peter Greenbush to go forward with the grant application. SECONDED by Stephanie Shelburne. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

Peter Greenbush signed the Resolution form for the Planning Commission. This form must next go to the Select Board for approval. Ms. Fishburn will be presenting to the Select Board at an upcoming meeting and answering any questions. Additionally, letters of support from community institutions (e.g., the church, library) are needed.

The process of writing the new Town Plan is expected to take approximately one year and will take into consideration new legislation such as future land use maps and Act 181. Without an up-to-date Town Plan zoning bylaws cannot be enforced. Jim Stimpson enquired as to whether or not we could write the new Town Plan ourselves.

Alden Finney asked about the total cost for the town. Sheila Lawrence had questions about the 10% match, whether it would need to be paid in advance and if was refundable. Callie Fishburn explained that the match was not required until we are actually awarded the grant. MOTION

by Peter Greenbush to table the discussion. SECONDED by Lisa Gramlin. All in favor. Motion APPROVED.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Lisa Gramlin received an email via the Zoning Administrator from Alison Spasyk, a Flood Resilience Educator who is working with the VT Department of Environmental Conservation, to conduct outreach to municipalities about the Flood Safety Act (Act 121). Her goal is to help towns understand the details and timeline for implementation of statewide river corridor protections and she is willing to come present and answer questions to the Planning Commission and/or Select Board. Lisa will reach out to Ms. Spasyk to see if she would be available to speak with us at our November 3rd meeting.

MOTION by Peter Greenbush for the Planning Commission to meet on September 29th at 6:00pm. Seconded by Jim Stimpson. 6 in favor, 1 opposed (Sheila Lawrence). Motion APPROVED.

MOTION by Peter Greenbush to adjourn. SECONDED by Alden Finney. All in favor. Motion APPROVED. The meeting adjourned at 9:05p.m.

Lisa Gramlin
Planning Commission Clerk