

Charleston Town Planning Commission
Meeting Minutes for Public Meeting on September 22, 2022

Members Attending: John Kellogg, Chair; Eleanor Leger, Member (remote); Peter Moskovites, ExOfficio; Larry Young, Ex Officio

Members Unable to Attend: Blair Moulton (Member & Clerk), Hap Elisaon (Member)

Also Attending: Colleen Kellogg, Assistant Town Clerk

The meeting, held at the Town Office, was called to order at 5:31 pm by Chair John Kellogg. Minutes of the March 24, 2022 Planning Commission meeting were read. A motion was made by Peter Moskovites to accept the minutes and seconded by Mr. Kellogg. The motion passed unanimously. There was no public comment.

Under Old Business, Assistant Town Clerk Colleen Kellogg relayed Hap Eliason's update on the town's solar array. She said all is well with the array and there have been months with record setting production, which VEC credits have shown. Mr. Eliason has seen no alerts since March/April when Building Energy made a couple of visits to resolve power limitation issues. Referring to earlier suggestions that Charleston's 5-year data monitoring contract should be extended by the length of the outage, Hap recommends the town begin formal correspondence on that topic. Mr. Kellogg said he will coordinate with Mr. Eliason and Ms. Kellogg to draft a letter for Selectboard review.

Also under Old Business, Mr. Kellogg offered a brief update on NEK Broadband progress. The organization's structure is increasingly formal, and relationships with installers are good. Where communication lines are now being placed, it is going smoothly, but only a small number of households are being served at this point. The group has raised about \$800,000 in ARPA funds from area towns and now has a fulltime finance professional. Mr. Kellogg will attend the NEK Broadband Annual Meeting next month in Lyndonville, which will include a financial review and approval of the 2023 Operating Budget, and report to the Selectboard on any important matters that arise from this meeting.

The town's Hazard Mitigation plan expires in 2026. A report of annual progress toward specific goals relating to townwide safety and infrastructure resilience is required by the plan as well as one public meeting—to be included as part of an April Selectboard meeting each year. Ms. Kellogg is assembling progress highlights and suggested including them in the annual Town Report, with a draft to be shared at the December Planning Commission meeting. Information is needed about safety/emergency capacity at the school and the Charleston Volunteer Fire Department. Ms. Kellogg said she will touch base with the school and Mr. Kellogg will reach out to the fire department.

Seeing no other business before the Commission, Mr. Kellogg asked for a motion to adjourn which was made by Eleanor Leger and seconded by Larry Young. The meeting was adjourned at

5:48 pm. The next meeting of the Planning Commission will be held at 5:30 pm on December 22, 2022 at the Town Office.

Minutes Accepted on December 22, 2022 by:

John Kellogg, Chair

Blair Moulton, Clerk