Tinmouth Planning Commission April 27, 2023 Regular Meeting Minutes

Members present in-person: Michael Fallar, Larry Carabeau, Judy Gilmore, and Andy Gilmore

Members present via Zoom: Kim Harbaugh, Bob Lloyd, Pat Psholka, and Vito Macaluso

Others: present in-person: Gail Fallar Secretary

And via Zoom: Sherry Johnson

Michael called the meeting to order at 7:08 pm, due to a bit of technical difficulty, and welcomed everyone.

Members reviewed the agenda, no changes.

Minutes of 3/16/23, Bob moved, Andy 2nded, all voted in favor to approve as written.

Members discussed advice from Ed Bove and Barbara Noyes-Pulling from the Rutland Regional Planning Commission regarding updating the energy section of the town plan. The state is currently revising standards and maps and other requirements and updating data, so at this time it makes more sense to not undertake a review until that work is completed. Bob expressed concern about the Regional Plan's upcoming revision and pressure from the State to allow industrial wind projects, as Tinmouth Mountain may be a good spot for wind. Currently both the regional and our town plan does not allow it. It was noted that much of Tinmouth Mountain has been conserved and should not allow it. The only 3-phase power transmission is the dedicated line from Proctor to the marble quarry in Danby.

Members discussed various types of renewable energy, including nuclear, hydro, and wind.

Gail reported that the Select Board had had a presentation from Kyle Medash, Vermont Rivers Program/Flood Plain Manager, on the new Flood Hazard Insurance Program that included a brief discussion of river corridors. The PC will be receiving information about possible steps to take to protect these. In Tinmouth these include the Channel with turns into the Clarendon River, on its way to Lake Champlain via Otter Creek; the Poultney River which starts up in the Purchase on the northwest part of town and flows through Middletown Springs into Poultney also on its way to Lake Champlain, and Flower Brook and Wells Brook which flow southwest to the Mettowee River.

Meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Next meeting is May 18th.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Fallar, Secretary