

**TOWN OF SKOWHEGAN
PLANNING BOARD
MEETING MINUTES**

January 15, 2019

6:00 P.M.

Council Room, Municipal Building

PRESENT:

Steve Conley, Chairman
Stephen Gould, Secretary
Ned Goff
Harvey Austin
Steve St. Pierre
Garrett Quinn
Joel Greenwood, Planner
Cynthia Kirk, Recording Secretary

ABSENT

Todd Smith, Vice Chairman

PUBLIC PRESENT:

Randall Gray, Code Enforcement Officer
Nick Aschauer, KVCOG
Jason Gayne, Chamber Director

1) QUORUM:

Planning Board Meeting called to order at 7:00 P.M. Quorum was present.

2) MINUTES OF THE October 2, 2018 JOINT PLANNING BOARD & SELECTMEN MEETING TO BE APPROVED:

Motion by Ned Goff to approve the October 2, 2018 Joint Planning Board & Selectmen meeting minutes, as written. Seconded by Steve Gould. Motion passed 4-0. (Harvey Austin abstained)

3) SITE PLAN

None

4) ITEMS BY THE PUBLIC:

None

5) COMMUNICATIONS:

None

6) UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A) Continue discussion on combining the Special Amusement, Obscenities and Adult Entertainment Ordinances.

Steve Conley said they all have a copy of the draft that Joel Greenwood has prepared for combining the Obscenities and Adult Entertainment Ordinances. They had decided at the previous meeting that the Special Amusement Ordinance should remain separate. There is also a list of discussion points from a meeting that Joel had with Jason Gayne from the Chamber of Commerce. This list shows everything that the Chamber along with business owners in town would like to see changed and/or updated. Steve opened up the discussion.

Garrett Quinn said there should be some sort of definition for what exactly a strip performance is considered. Harvey said he thinks what Garrett means is how much can a dancer take off for clothing to be considered a strip performance. Ned Goff asked if the current ordinance has a restriction for complete nudity. Joel said the combined draft ordinance does not have a specific restriction of nudity but it does have a definition of what is considered obscene and would be prohibited. However, the Special Amusement Ordinance does in fact prohibit complete nudity. Joel reminded everyone that the Special Amusement ordinance pertains to businesses and places that have liquor licenses and not just the general public.

Ned Goff said he doesn't believe that we should have ordinances that restrict businesses from making money. He said if people want to attend these events then they should be able to as long as they meet the age requirements.

Joel suggested that they go through all of the points that were discussed in his meeting with Jason Gayne and see if the Planning Board is ok with the proposed changes. The first ordinance they discussed was the Special Amusement.

All of the points were discussed and Joel will make the recommended changes in the Special Amusement Ordinance and present it to them at the next meeting.

Steve Conley asked if everyone would like table the discussion on the other ordinances until the next meeting. Everyone agreed that they would.

7) NEW BUSINESS:

8) ITEMS BY:

a) SELECTMEN:

None

b) DEPARTMENT HEADS:

Randy Gray let the Planning Board know that his official retirement date will be June 14, 2019. He said it has been a pleasure to work with all of them over the years. Everyone said that they will miss him and it will be hard to replace him.

c) MEMBERS:

Garrett Quinn said he thinks our town is missing some huge opportunities. He said 12 years ago the town approved putting in a multi-sports center up at the recreation center. He said he has been looking at studies of other town's that have put in similar multi- sports centers and he found one in Kansas that has a smaller population then Skowhegan and their economic impact was \$3.8 million per year for their county. He has also looked at the Alford Center in Waterville and with all of the things they have added to their facility they will now be hosting large tournaments there which will bring people from all over New England to their town. He has spoken with our recreation director and she told him the next step they have to do is put in the turn lane

and widen the main route. Garrett said they should have been able to do that in within the last 12 years. He said this is just a shame that the ball has been dropped on this because it not only affects our children but also our business owners in town as well. He said someone should really be looking into this.

Ned Goff said that this will be his last meeting as a member of the Planning Board. He will be resigning. He said he has enjoyed being on the Planning Board for all of these years. Ned also said everyone knows how he feels about this new proposed fire/police department building. He knows that we need changes but he hopes whatever is done it is brought to the taxpayers in the right way and not at a special town meeting with only 50 people attending.

Steve Gould said it will be strange without Randy and Ned here all the time and they will be missed. He said he went to a business after hours at the Charter School the other night and it certainly is an interesting school. He said it is incredible what they have down there now and everyone should go check it out.

d) CHAIRMAN:

e) STAFF:

Cindy said it has been mentioned to her that the finance department would like to have them all sign up for direct deposit for their stipend checks they get for attending the meetings. This way they don't have to deal with checks not getting cashed in the future. She can have the forms for them at the next meeting.

Joel introduced Nick from KVCOG who will be his backup if he is not available.

9) ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Harvey Austin to adjourn at 7:18 p.m., Seconded by Ned Goff.
Motion passed 5-0.

Minutes approved on February 5, 2019.

Chairman
