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1761

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Planning Commission Special Meeting minutes

May 18th, 2026

Present: DRB/PC members: Jamie Dayton, chair; Dennis Mueller; Logan Roth-Longe; Abby Matson; Town Clerk/Treasurer Kyle Rowe, Sharon Ashcraft

Planning Commission

1. Jamie called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.
2. Jamie moved into discussion on the only agenda item, the nomination of an Assistant Zoning Administrator/Administrative Officer;
    a. He asked the C/T to provide some background on why they were meeting again after their meeting last week;
        i. The C/T stated his nomination was brought to the Selectboard, however after discussing the matter, the Selectboard asked the C/T to find other interested persons who were not Town employees, and not connected to Panton.
        ii. The C/T added that David Austin, the AO from the City of Vergennes, and Adam Lougee, the Executive Director of ACRPC had both expressed interest in helping the Town. Both were experienced zoning professionals with decades of experience in zoning and planning.
        iii. The C/T suggested nominating both of these AOs, as it would provide the most flexibility in scheduling and arranging.
        iv. The C/T noted that part of his duties involved the supervision of the ZA/AO, and that he would be able to manage the logistics of having several AO's and assistants.
        v. It was noted that there would be a financial cost to the Town, but that it should be minimal, and the SB would handle the specifics.
        vi. It was again noted that the SB wanted to take this action to avoid even the implication of a conflict of interest in future zoning situations, and that the timeline had been accelerated as there was a pending matter that needed handling within a few days.

vii. Some general discussion was held about the nature of AOs, and it was noted that this may be a path that the PC would adopt permanently, and add to the Zoning Regulations.

b. Sharon Ashcraft asked if there was a job description;
    i. It was noted that the Zoning Regulations contained a job description that would satisfy for the time being.
c. Sharon Ashcraft asked if this would be permanent;
    i. It was noted that it would be, until acted upon by the SB.

3. Dennis made a motion to forward the nominations of both candidates to the SB, Logan seconded-**VOTE-ALL IN FAVOR**
4. Logan made a motion to adjourn, Dennis seconded-**VOTE-ALL IN FAVOR**