

Commission Meeting

Friday, September 20, 2024 9:00-10:30 AM

Hybrid Meeting (Conference Rm 1A, SRPC Office & via Zoom)

1. Welcome and Introductions

9:07 Chair Dave Landry called the meeting to order and asked for introductions.

David Landry, Dover; John Mullen, Middleton; Kate Buzard, Middleton; Michael Bobinsky, Somersworth; Chris Horton, Somersworth; Steve Brown, Dover; Katrin Kasper, Lee; Matthew Towne, Barrington; Wayne Lehman, Lee; John Nute, Milton; Joe Boudreau, Rochester; Barbara, Holstein, Rochester; Beverly Cray, UNH; Peter Nelson, Newmarket; Rick Healey, Rochester; Tom Falk, Madbury;

Members attending Zoom: Steve Diamond, Barrington; Jack Wade, NHDES; Lindsey Williams, Dover

Staff in person: Michael Polizzotti, Kerri Diers, Mark Davie, Colin Lentz, Jen Czysz

Staff on Zoom: Blair Haney, Natalie Gemma

2. Commissioner Roundtable

D. Landry welcomed Tom Falk who is joining the Commission from Madbury. Tom stated he previously worked for Rockingham Planning Commission.

C. Horton reported that the Somersworth Planning Board approved a 28-unit apartment building redevelopment site next to Aclara which is big win for the city and will hopefully put a dent in the housing shortage. There is a 150-unit apartment building going in at 22 Glenn Street. The Sports Hub project is underway. C. Horton thanked staff at SRPC for the completion of phase 2 of the ordinance and zoning review.

S. Diamond stated that he recently saw on the news that many cities in Europe are considered walkable which means essential services are within a 15 minute walk. We have a long way to go but it is possible achieve.

J. Nute of Milton reported that the Town offices in Milton have moved to 55 Industrial Way.

3. Action Items

a. Approve minutes of 8/16/2024

D. Landry motioned to approve the minutes of 8/16/2024 seconded by K. Kasper. All members voted unanimously in favor. The motion passed.

b. Accept Annual Report

J. Czysz stated that each year SRPC prepares an annual report that highlights the successes of the prior year, events, meetings, and lays out the budget for the current year.

D. Landry suggested to give the Commission the opportunity to review the document and send any comments to Jen or Megan. The Commission will vote to approve at the October Meeting. The report is available to view on the SRPC website.



c. Approve FY2026 Dues

J. Czysz stated that the dues are typically adjusted on population estimate, and a per capita rate. This year the consumer price index is 2.9%. There is an overall increase to \$5000.

The group engaged in discussion on the increased workload on staff, and the criteria used to determine the dues rate.

D. Landry motioned to approve the FY2026 dues as recommended by the Executive Committee seconded by J. Boudreau. All members voted unanimously in favor. The motion passed.

4. Staff Presentation

a. Housing Opportunity Planning Grant Highlights

Staff members including principal planners Kerrie Diers and Blair Haney and senior planners Natalie Gemma and Mark Davie shared highlights from the Housing Opportunity Planning (HOP) grant communities. To date, SRPC has worked with the following communities on a variety of projects:

- Barrington: Master Plan
- Dover: Regulatory Audit and Policies Development
- Farmington: Housing Navigator and Route 11 Corridor Study
- New Durham: Housing Navigator and Master Plan
- Newmarket: Master Plan and Form Based Code
- Somersworth: Master Plan and Audit

There is another round of HOP grant funding available, and applications are due on September 30th. We are currently working with several communities to submit applications. Additionally, the state recently completed and adopted administrative rules for a new Housing Champions program that will likely launch late fall or early winter.

5. Other Business

There was no other business

6. Citizens Forum

There were no citizens present

7. Adjourn

M. Towne motioned to adjourn seconded by J. Mullen. All members voted in favor. The meeting adjourned at 10:20 AM.

