

TOWN OF HOWARD PLANNING BOARD MINUTES

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

Planning board members present: Wes Coots, James Fodge, Barry Kidder, Robin Phenes, William Thew Absent: Sean Turner

Guests: Jack Bossard, Richard Stewart

7:03 pm: William Thew called the meeting to order. Wes Coots made a motion to approve the minutes of the October 19, 2022 meeting minutes as written, seconded by William Thew. Carried: Coots, aye; Fodge, aye; Kidder, aye; Phenes, aye; Thew, aye.

Jack Bossard's planning board term expired on December 31, 2022. William Thew nominated himself for Chairman. Jim Fodge made a resolution to appoint William Thew as Chairman, seconded by Barry Kidder. Carried: Coots, aye; Fodge, aye; Kidder, aye; Phenes, aye; Thew, aye.

One more Planning Board member will be needed. William Thew will reach out to the alternates, Andrew Burdin and Shane Slayton, and give them priority. William Thew will also contact Josh Ferguson, who expressed an interest in serving on the Planning Board. The Planning Board will make the decision at the next meeting and present their recommendation to the Town Board for approval.

7:15 pm: The planning board commenced discussion about the draft Battery Storage Law. William Thew noted the additional changes made to the New York State Model Law on Battery Storage to customize it for the Town of Howard. Barry Kidder discussed Tier 1 and Tier 2 projects. Jim Fodge recommended that if there is a fee for the review of a battery storage project, the applicant should pay for the review, not the town.

7:30 pm: Richard Stewart asked if Brad Laverty was excused from the meeting. He noted that there were aspects of the draft law discussion that would benefit from Brad Laverty's input.

8:00 pm: After the Planning Board reviewed the draft, Jim Fodge made a resolution to send the draft Battery Storage Law to the Town Board for review, which was seconded by Wes Coots. Carried: Coots, aye; Fodge, aye; Kidder, aye; Phenes, aye; Thew, aye.

8:05 pm: William Thew drafted a proposed logging law after the former logging law was repealed. The draft law will be reviewed at the next meeting.

The next Planning board meeting will be held on February 15, 2023.

8:15 pm: A motion was made by Wes Coots and seconded by Jim Fodge to adjourn the meeting. Carried: