Town of Charleston Planning Board
Meeting Minutes
May 22, 2024

Present:

David Wiener, Chair
Jim Capron, Member
Donna Wakefield, Member
Joseph Fitzpatrick, Alternate
Amanda Peterson, Member
Absent:
Norman Paulson, Vice Chair
Lisa Lee, Alternate
Comprehensive Plan Committee:
Jim Capron, Chair
Justine Cornelison
Mike Martuscello
Absent:
Carter Gibson
Other officials:
Bob Sullivan, Town Supervisor

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm

Minutes approved.
Agenda approved.

Old Business

- Comprehensive Plan – The town grant is too low, we need to apply for more. Amy Fitzgerald is the only group that responded to our RFQ; she will probably be more cost effective than the engineering firm. Mike thinks we'll need 20-30 people to execute the work that is required to create the comprehensive plan. Most firms want us to be up in the $90,000 range to support us in processing the plan. David suggested we do the interviews and apply for another award simultaneously. Jim is going to do some digging, talk with Amy and the folks in Syracuse to see what they are willing to do for the money. Jim thinks we should void the existing grant and apply for a new one at a greater amount, $90,000 and above preferably. Jim will set up an interview with Amy. The contract expires in September 2026. The Town's procurement procedure follows the state guidelines. Bob will look into if the Town can contribute monies to the budget. The Town already has to put up 10%.

No New Business

Adjourned at 7:28 pm

Public Comments (3 minutes per person)

Pete – Wants to know what is going on with proposed battery storage facility. David talked about the presentation made by investors 2 months ago, we have not heard anything since then. They have not met up with the fire department about the technical questions the firehouse asked, so nothing is happening so far. Pete mentioned that no sales taxes are paid to the communities from these facilities. He also talked about the negatives of a battery storage facility – fires, pollution, etc.