**TOWN OF AMITY PLANNING BOARD**

**Meeting Minutes**

**April 14, 2022**

**APPROVED**

The meeting was held at the town hall, and was called to order at 7:00PM.

Those present were: W. Skinner, G. Hanchett, D. Serra, J. Maynard; excused: P. VanDyke, B. Zlomek; absent: J. Clouse

***Pledge of Allegiance*** was led by W. Skinner

***Approval of Minutes*** Motion to approve minutes of the 3-17-2022 meeting made by D. Serra; second by G. Hanchett. Vote: yes – 4; no – 0; motion carried.

***Town Board Report*** presented by W. Skinner; councilmen approved minutes of the previous meeting, and accepted reports from the highway superintendent, town clerk, and bookkeeper; abstracts were approved for payment. MRB/MS will need resolution to have SEQRA conducted to begin the process of repairs to water lines in the five water districts. Kier Dirlam reviewed the joint comprehensive plan, and steps needed to move towards public hearing and adoption of the plan. Town councilmen were presented with copies of the draft plan to read and provide comment. W. Skinner presented the comments from the planning board’s review of the draft to the town board. Discussion held about condition of WilMac Park bathrooms/concession stand; who owns the park—town or village? If village wants park will there be union problems with town concerns maintaining it?

***Old Business***

***Vouchers*** W. Skinner submitted vouchers to the town bookkeeper.

***Review of comprehensive plan*** The following comments were noted: the style and cover of the draft are not what the joint committee or the planning board requested; the focus of the cover and the theme should be the Genesee River – “The river runs through it;” the style of the photos in the plan are not acceptable; the renewable energy section should not contain images or comments about solar farms in other districts in the county; there are serious concerns about the new NYS law deadlines requiring certain renewable energy use by 2024 - 2035; is there enough infrastructure in place to provide all the energy needed for this rural area? Will the green energy building requirements be a deterrent to economic development in the area? What kind of protections can we put in the plan to protect the town from the consequences of these regulations? Town attorney should be presented with the draft and the concerns for review and advice.

 ***New Business***

***Solar Moratorium and Renewable energy*** W. Skinner will present the contacts for DEC and solar energy consultants that G. Hanchett provided after attending training sessions on solar development, to the town board for consideration in planning for renewable energy development.

***Other??*** G. Hanchett reported on some of the current legislative issues.

 Maureen Harding, former Belmont resident, and Planning Commission member in North Tonawanda is willing to meet with /advise the planning board on handling planning and development issues. She will not be available on the first Monday of each month.

 W. Skinner will contact a DOT official to see what regulations exist for creating entrance/egress on SR 19 for new and existing businesses.

***Next Meeting -- May 12, 2022 @ 7PM***

***Adjournment*** Motion to adjourn by G. Hanchett; second by D. Serra. Vote: Yes – 4; No – 0; meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.