

MINUTES SELECT BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
on the
2019-2026 Grafton Town Plan
Thursday December 12, 2019 @ Grafton Town Garage
Following the Hearing which was held at 6:00 PM

The Chair opened the hearing at 6:16 PM.

Present: Selectboard: Chair Joe Pollio, Cathy Siano-Goodwin, Al Sands, Chris Wallace, and Stan Mack.

Others present: Suzanne Welch, Sam Battaglino, Lucia Corwin, Phil Atwood, Joan Lake, Dottie Cannon, Sally and Richard Warren, Dave Culver, Hardy Merrill, Pat Mack, Michelle Dufort, Kirk Goodwin, Marianne Donald, Bob Donald, Charlie Hooker, Carol Lind, Christine Tattersall, Matt Siano, and Bill Kearns – Town Administrator.

Fact TV Matt Farkas

1. (Please see the agenda for this meeting) Bill Kearns asked to be heard on the status of the Town Plan and the adoption process. He referred to the agenda for this meeting and the options set forth there. In short there are three. If the Selectboard (SB) amends the Plan – other than the change of name to reflect the adoption year, the SB will have in effect rejected the Plan because there was no more time to warn a special Town Meeting for an Australian Ballot to be had prior to January 15th, 2020 which is the date the Plan must be adopted or it is deemed rejected by law. The second option is to reject the Plan which has the same effect as the first option, but it more direct. The third option is to approve the version of the Plan which the SB approved on November 8th, 2019, except to change the name on the cover to “Grafton, VT 2020-2028 Town Plan”, and set the Australian ballot vote on the Plan on January 13th, 2020 from 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM at the Town Hall and set January 7th, 2020 at 6 PM at the Grafton Elementary School for the Informational Hearing as required by 17 VSA 2680(g). and adopt the following Article for vote at the Jan 13th Special Town Meeting: Article 1. **“Shall the registered voters of the Town of Grafton adopt the Grafton, VT 2020-2028 Town Plan.”**
2. The Chair asked if there were any amendments to be proposed. When none were raised, he recognized himself and moved, second by Al Sands, to amend the Town Plan as follows: to amend the language on page 9, under Resource Lands by striking the last phrase, so that it would read: “Resource Lands are dominated by lands requiring special protection or consideration due to their uniqueness, irreplaceable or fragile nature, or important ecological function. Resource Lands can be actively worked and used.” ~~but future development should be weighed against the desire to preserve the area.~~ and he included in his amendment offer to delete the Proposed Land Use map dated November 2018 and replace it with the Resource Areas – Land map dated July 2008, which was in the 2008 town Plan. When the motion was called the votes were Yes – Pollio and sands and No – Mack, Wallace, and Siano-Goodwin. The Motion to amend failed. Motion by Stan Mack to
 - i. Amend the name of the Plan to “Grafton, VT, 2020-2028 Town Plan”
 - ii. To approve the Grafton, VT, 2020-2028 Town Plan for vote at a Special Town Meeting,
 - iii. To declare January 13, 2020 9 am to 7 PM at the Town Hall as the date, time and place of the Special Town Meeting,
 - iv. To set January 7th at 6 PM in the Grafton Elementary School as the date, time and place of the public informational hearing required by 17 VSA 2680(g), and
 - v. To adopt the following Article for vote at the Jan 13th Special Town Meeting: Article 1. **“Shall the registered voters of the Town of Grafton adopt the Grafton, VT 2020-2028 Town Plan.”**

There was discussion and the vote was called: Voting on the Motion: Yes – Pollio, Mack, Wallace, and Siano-Goodwin; No – Sands.

3. Motion to adjourn made by Stan Mack, second Al Sands and the meeting adjourned at 6:25 PM.

Respectfully submitted, William G. Kearns