

Report of the Planning Board

ROLE OF THE PLANNING BOARD

The Planning Board has three primary roles:

1. Regulatory
 - a. Drafting new and amending existing Ordinances and Regulations.
 - b. Review applications for Excavations and Excavation permit renewals, Subdivisions, Lot Line Adjustments and Site Plans submitted to the Town.
2. Non-Regulatory
 - a. Develop and maintain a Master Plan
A Master Plan is a planning document that serves to guide the overall character, physical form, growth, and development of a community. It provides guidance to local officials making decisions on budgets, ordinances, capital improvements, zoning and subdivision matters, and other growth related issues.
 - b. Develop and maintain a Capital Improvement Program (CIP)
The capital improvement program (CIP), links local infrastructure investments with master plan goals, land use ordinances, and economic development. A capital improvement program bridges the gap between planning and spending, between the visions of the master plan and the fiscal realities of improving and expanding community facilities. It provides an outline of anticipated expenditures for capital projects projected over a period of at least 6 years.
3. Working with other Boards and Organizations
Board of Selectmen, Zoning Board of Adjustment, Conservation Commission, Energy Committee & Rockingham Planning Commission as well as State agencies such as the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NH DES) Office of Energy and Planning (OEP) and the Local Government Center (LGC).

PLANNING BOARD BUDGET

In 2015 the Town allocated \$39,331 to Planning and Zoning. In addition to funding the operation of the Land Use department, budget funds provide for external services such as the part-time support of Rockingham Planning Commission Circuit Rider who provides essential professional support to the Planning Board.

The Town, with the support of the Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) receives grant monies annually to perform valuable planning related projects:

1. In June the Board contracted with the RPC to perform a Road Surface Management Study of the Town roads (approximately 40 miles) and evaluates the condition of the

roads (pavement and sub base) and culverts. To date the analysis is complete and the final report is due to be presented to the Board in February for review. This report will enable the Town to determine appropriate road rehabilitation and estimate the cost of this work, and to be able to prioritize roads based on condition. This was a pilot study funded by the NH DOT and Fremont was required to contribute \$1,500.

At year end \$29,836 was spent with \$9,495 remaining unspent. In addition \$7,178 was realized in revenue.

PLANNING BOARD ACTIVITIES

During 2015 the Planning Board performed the following activities:

Regulatory

The Board with the assistance of the RPC performed a Zoning Ordinance Recodification. Essentially this is a reorganization of the Zoning Ordinances into a more meaningful order that is easier to read. Since this is strictly a reorganization and does not include any substantive changes to the individual Ordinance, there is no requirement to prevent these changes to voters.

In addition, the Planning Board completed the following work in 2015:

Excavation Permit Renewal	4
Excavation Site Visit	4
Subdivision Review	1
Site Plan Review	1
Lot Line Adjustment	1

Non Regulatory

Capital Improvement Program

The Town formed a Capital Improvement program (CIP) committee consisting of the following members, whose services have been gratefully appreciated:

Roger Barham and Tom O'Brien	Planning Board Representatives
Mary Anderson and Joe Miccile	Budget Committee Representatives
Neal Janvrin	Selectmen's Representative
Andy Kohlhofer	School Board Representative

The Committee has recently completed reviewing and evaluating proposed capital projects for the period 2016-2021 and the report should be published for review and adoption by the Planning Board in February.

Master Plan Energy Chapter

The Planning Board, with the assistance of the RPC has recently updated the Energy Chapter of the Master Plan. The document is currently under review for comment by the Energy Committee.

PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS

Your current Planning Board Members are:

Roger Barham	Chairman	John (Jack) Karcz	Vice-Chairman
John (Jack) Downing	Member	Andrew Kohlhofer	Member
Tom O'Brien	Alternate	Brett Hunter	Member
Leon Holmes Sr	Selectman	Phil Coombs	Member

Don Marshall continues as the Planning Board representative as a Commissioner to the Rockingham Planning Commission.

Please visit the Planning Board page on the Fremont Town website for ongoing updates and information relative to the Zoning Ordinance, maps, regulations, decisions, minutes and agendas.

The Board is extremely saddened at the passing of Meredith "Chickee" Bolduc who died on October 10, 2015 following a courageous battle with cancer. Meredith, our Land Use Administrator, was dedicated to the Town, a wealth of knowledge and inspiration, and the back bone of the Planning Board. Meredith is sorely missed by all who knew her.

Our gratitude is expressed to the Members who continue to volunteer their time and efforts to serve on the Town of Fremont Planning Board. On a personal note I want to express my sincere thanks to Heidi Carlson and Bob Meade, who in the absence of Meredith have selflessly stepped up to the plate and filled the void that Meredith left and enable the Board to perform its duties.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Barham
Chairman

"There are souls in this world which have the gift of finding joy everywhere and of leaving it behind them when they go."

~Frederick Faber