

## **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 2014 the Town allocated \$37,264 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:

In November the Board contracted with the RPC on a Recodification of the Zoning Ordinance project. For the initial funding the Town took advantage of \$1,000 the RPC had remaining in a 2014 50/50 Targeted Block Grant (TGB) fund, requiring the Town to contribute \$1,000. This project will continue into 2015 and the Board anticipates further TGB funds will be available to complete this project.

At year end \$36,020.77 was spent with \$1,243.23 remaining unspent. In addition \$9,952.87 was realized in revenue including all land use application fees.

## **PLANNING BOARD ACTIVITIES**

During 2014 the Planning Board performed the following activities:

### **Regulatory**

Three (3) Zoning Ordinance Amendments were completed. These will be presented to voters in 2015.

In addition, the Planning Board completed the following work in 2014:

Excavation Permit(s) New	1
Excavation Permit(s) Renewal	4
Excavation Site Visit(s)	3
Master Plan Chapter Update	1
Site Plan Review(s)	3
Lot Line Adjustment(s)	1
Voluntary Lot Line Merger(s)	2
Scenic Road Hearing(s)	1

### **Non Regulatory**

The Town is currently updating the Capital Improvement Program. Excavation, Site Plan Review and Subdivision Regulations updates are completed as necessary.

## **PLANNING BOARD MEMBERS**

Your current Planning Board Members are:

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

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

The Board is extremely grateful to Meredith Bolduc, our Land Use Administrative Assistant, whose hard work and dedication ensures the smooth functioning of the office.

Our gratitude is expressed to the Members who continue to volunteer their time and efforts to serve on the Town of Fremont Planning Board.

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.

If you have any questions, concerns or suggestions for the Planning Board, or if you would like to participate by filling one of the available positions, please contact Meredith in the Land Use Office at 895-3200 x 17.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger Barham  
Chairman



Bobcat in Fremont, early one February 2014 morning

Photo courtesy of Abby Copp and Meredith Bolduc