

****DRAFT** TOWN OF SMITHVILLE
PLANNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6, 2021**

Call to Order: Chair Shane Butler called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Planning Board Members Present: Chair Shane Butler, Bob Brooks, Dakota Warren, Fred Heisler, Jr., Donna Marie Utter, Clerk.

Others in Attendance: John Cammarata, Supervisor

1. REVIEW/APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

- Motion made by Planning Board member Dakota Warrent to approve the December 2, 2020 minutes, seconded by Planning Board member Bob Brooks. All members voted aye, motion carried.

2. NEW BUSINESS:

Broadband Grant to be Submitted:

Commerce Chenango is applying for a \$300,000 grant to be used for wireless broadband solutions for the towns of Preston and Smithville. Applications are due next week and should be awarded in February. Interconnect is the wireless contractor/installer. Smithville qualifies to apply for the grant as we have the ability for more coverage due to current fiber optic cable on County Road 3 and additional vertical access sites. If there is an award to Smithville, there will need to be 3 town meetings for public information purposes. This will provide internet access only for approximately \$65/month. A survey of effectiveness will be due by 2022.

New Member:

- Due to Adam Whitbeck's resignation, at the January 18, 2021 Annual Town Meeting they will appoint a new member to the Planning Board.

Update Contacts List:

- Any changes to your contact information, should be sent to Alison so she can update the master list.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

Water System – Grant Potentially Available:

- A Public Hearing and application would need to be completed by March for the 1.25-million-dollar grant. 1 million available through the grant and by partnering with the FDA you could receive up to 1.25 million. This would be just for a water system in the hamlet and would require drilling wells.

- Supervisor Cammarata talked with Chesna out of Norwich and they would prepare paperwork for the grant for a fee of \$10,000. The water to 20 homes was tested in

2010 and his recommendation would be to retest those same homes to see if there are any changes. He stated that when this idea was proposed prior, the cost was not feasible.

- Chair Shane Butler stated that it would be nice to have a cost estimate to that specific information can be provided as to why the project is not feasible.

- Supervisor Cammarata stated that the number of tax bills sent out this year are up 1,034 were sent out.

4. ADJOURNMENT:

- There being no other business to come before the Planning Board, Planning Board member Fred Heisler, Jr. moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:16 p.m., seconded by Planning Board member Bob Brooks.

Next Planning Board Meeting is Wednesday, February 3, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

Submitted by: Donna Marie Utter, Planning Board Clerk