

Minutes of Belvidere Planning Commission Meeting

May 9, 2024, an in-person and ZOOM hybrid meeting.

Meeting convened at 7:02 PM due to internet connectivity issues, and adjourned at 7:33 PM.

BPC member, Ken Adams Jr., attended at the Belvidere Town Clerk's Office; Kathy Marchant and Deb Baker attended via ZOOM. Cathy Mander-Adams hosted ZOOM meeting. Carol Caldwell-Edmonds attended as the Lamoille Fibernet representative from Belvidere.

Motion by Deb to accept the minutes of the April 11, 2024, meeting as written; second by Kathy; motion carried.

Internet and cell service

Carol Caldwell-Edmonds reported on Lamoille Fibernet progress as follows:

- Lamoille Fibernet has undergone several in-house cost-cutting measures; their annual organizational meeting is May 14th
- Fidium Fiber has reached out to Selectboards and Planning Commissions in the service area to schedule construction kickoff meetings; changes are beginning to happen quickly regarding infrastructure construction
- The CUD has developed a very good FAQ page on their website - lamoillefiber.net
- Carol serves on a task force currently working on equitable distribution of ARPA funds previously pledged by several towns
- Improved cell service is still up in the air but maybe BEAD will help fund it at a later date

MTAP projects update

Ken reported that Lamoille County Forester, Emily Potter, conducted a site visit of the Town Forest property; next steps include development of a forest management plan and community outreach.

There has been little progress on the playground equipment project, but Melissa Manka from LCPC is scheduled to work on it in the next few weeks.

Other business/public comment

Kathy commented that the State is placing more emphasis on flood resiliency and prevention, which will impact the requirements of our next Town Plan revision.

Ken informed the meeting that Bog Road is closed to thru traffic due to a recurring sinkhole at the Perkins Brook Culvert. This culvert is currently under review for replacement and the Selectboard is working with FEMA to apply for mitigation funding for the replacement. All properties, homes, and camps are still accessible along Bog Road.

Motion to adjourn at 7:33 PM by Deb, second by Kathy; motion carried

Next regular meeting scheduled **June 13, 2024, 6:30PM – 8:00PM**, in person at the Belvidere Town Clerk's Office and will include a ZOOM hybrid opportunity as well.