

## Minutes of Belvidere Planning Commission Meeting

**October 10, 2024, an in-person and ZOOM hybrid meeting.**

Meeting convened at 6:35 PM and adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Members present at TCO were Ken Adams Jr., Deb Baker, and Kathy Marchant; also present at TCO were Town Clerk Cathy Mander-Adams and LCPC rep Alec Jones. No changes to the agenda.

Motion by Deb to accept the minutes of the September 12, 2024, meeting as written; 2nd by Kathy; motion carried.

Alec Jones presented an overlay map of the ANR River Corridor and current version of FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), circa 1980. Alec is working on the creation of an overlay map that reflects today's unofficial FEMA map updates. Discussion on the Vermont Emergency Relief and Assistance Fund (ERAF) based on these maps included the following points:

- Flood Plain designates the area where rising water will overflow; River Corridor designates the boundaries of where a river will meander over time
- The maximum payment from ERAF is 17.5% of potential damage costs; Belvidere currently qualifies for 12.5% and needs to meet River Corridor and Fluvial Protection regulations to maximize ERAF reimbursements for disaster damages. Vermont ANR river corridor regulations compliance will possibly become mandatory by 2027; updated FEMA maps possibly finalized in 2026 or 2027.
- Adopting River Corridor and Fluvial Protection regulations using the ANR template would accomplish 95% compliance.
- Alec suggested BPC members should access the on-line version of the ANR template (emailed by Ron in Sept.) to use the interactive sections that allow towns to insert their own specific verbiage
- The Town should inquire if the potential MERP funded work on the Town Clerk's Office is impacted by Flood Plain/River Corridor regulations
- Consensus of group that BPC should research impact of adopting and enforcing new regulations and then be prepared to invite other stakeholders to the discussion including:
  - Belvidere Selectboard and Listers
  - Town Flood Hazard Area Officer
  - Town's attorney
  - All interested Belvidere residents and property owners specifically affected

Current town development issues and other business: All of the various road projects discussed at the September meeting are in final stages of completion.

Motion by Deb to adjourn at 7:47 PM; 2nd by Kathy; motion carried.

Next regular meeting scheduled **November 14, 2024, 6:30PM – 8:00PM**, in person at the Belvidere Town Clerk's Office and will include a ZOOM hybrid opportunity as well.