

# Coventry Planning Commission

## Informational Minutes

October 9, 2017

### **Board Members Present:**

Maurice Jacobs / Chairman  
Skip Gosselin  
Phil Marquette  
Dan Introcasse (Volunteer)

### **Town Officials Present:**

Amanda Carlson/Town Administrator  
Adam Messier/Treasurer  
Deb Tanguay/Town Clerk  
Carol Simmons/Planning Commission Administrative Assistant  
Martha Sylvester/Director of Recreation

### **Coventry Village School Board:**

Viola Poirier  
Amanda Jensen  
Matthew Baughman/Coventry Village School Principal

### **Guests:**

Joe Gay  
Matthew Baughman  
Valerie Gosselin  
Ray Stevens  
Tammy Dodge Jacobs  
Bruce Sargent  
Fred Webster  
Peter Lyon  
Rhonda Montaloo  
Marie Sloan  
Jeanne Desrochers  
Bryan L. Elmer

#### **1. Moe Jacobs called meeting to order at 6:00 pm**

2. Planning Commission introduced members. Moe Jacobs gave an introduction as to what our agenda was and what we are trying to accomplish. Moe stated that the Planning Commission would like the residents of Coventry to be part of the Town Plan by giving their thoughts and ideas.

**3. Education** - Matt Baughman gave a condensed presentation regarding Coventry Village School. He stated they are now a pre-K through grade 8. Matt said they have 145 students, a large increase from last year. He spoke of using local ingredients at the school and community service projects they are planning.

- **Question:** Regarding home schooling – who pays – do families or taxpayers incur the cost? Mr. Baughman replied that the only cost for home schooling is bore by the parent unless the child is in an IP program which services are paid by the town.
- **Question:** Future goals for the school – was consolidation of schools considered? Mr. Baughman replied that the School Board met with the town and town has decided against consolidation at this time
- Matt Bauhman was introduced to Joe Gay regarding the greenhouse project that is up and coming at the landfill as it could be something the students at CVS could be part of.

**4. Landfill:** Joe Gay from Casella Waste Management spoke to the group giving a summary of what is going on at the Landfill.

- **Question:** If not permitted, how long would landfill be open – Joe answered 4 year. If able to expand, the landfill would remain open 25 to 30 years.
- **Question:** Is tonnage down from previous years – Joe answered
- **Question:** If you don't get a permit, what would happen to Coventry – Joe answered, we would cap & revenue would stop.
- **Question:** What happens regarding composting as residents understand that by 2020 it will be illegal to throw away organics – Joe answered that we would all need to compost.

**5. Energy:** Mo and Skip gave summary of energy & discussed the need for it in the community. Solar energy was discussed.

- **Question:** How big of a property would be needed for a solar array – answer was 5 acres.
- **Question:** How much would the initial cost be for the town for a solar project – answer was \$1.5 Million, but it would pay back in 15 years.
- **Question:** Have we explored geothermal – answer was we haven't had the chance to reach out as our town is really too small.
- **Question:** Are there grants available – answer was we will look into it if we proceed with any energy plan

**6. Housing:** Was open discussion started by Moe. It was stated not many places for sale within Coventry. All were in agreement that Coventry needs low income housing.

**7. Wetlands:** Mo gave a summary & what we would like to see and have done regarding the wetlands right within the town.

- **Question:** regarding the new requirement Flood & River Corridor has it been addressed – answer is that we are working on it and it will be part of the town plan. We have samples of how it is put in plans from neighboring towns that we can utilize.

**8. Open Questions / Discussion:**

- The burned house in Coventry Town was brought up and thoughts that it should be cleaned up. Amanda (Town Administrator) stated that there is a legal matter going on so it cannot be cleaned up at this time. A resident stated that maybe adding a bylaw that would state a period of time that it must be cleaned up as it is a safety hazard.
- Ray Stevens requested the commission looked into guard rails for the 4 corners of Airport Road and Coventry Station Road – he said it's a very dangerous intersection. He also stated


he would take care of the cemetery near his home if Coventry would cover the costs to do so.

**9. Planning Commission Agenda with Survey on bottom:**

- Received 7 surveys filled out and handed in!

**10. Informational Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm**

The next Planning Commission meeting will be held on Monday, October 23, 2017 at 6:00 pm



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Maurice (Mo) Jacobs/Chairman




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Robert (Skip) Gosselin

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Izzy Sanville



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Phil Marquette



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Dan Introcaso/Volunteer

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Carol Simmons/Administrative Assistant