

# ATHENS TOWN PLANNING COMMISSION

## Meeting Notes

January 2, 2024  
Scheduled for 10:30 am

Attending Members: Andrew Toepfer (AT), John Oberling (JO), Janet Perry (JP), Ivor Stevens (IS), Mark Berman (MB)

Absent Members: None

Other Attendees: None

- 1) Call to Order: Meeting commenced at 10:40 am at Town Hall
- 2) Amendments to the Agenda: None
- 3) Approve Past Minutes
  - a. Motion by JP, seconded by IS, approved unanimously
2. Three-minute public comments: No members of public present
3. Working session (Discuss Town Plan)
  - a. Review edits/updates of pages 1-12 of draft Town Plan
    - i. Discussion of description of manner in which voters of Town will vote on eventual proposal
    - ii. Discussion of addressing concerns previously raised vis-à-vis prior proposed Town Plan
    - iii. Discussion of value of updating town survey, which would be expensive and generated relatively little feedback in 2014; consensus that citizens' concerns have not changed and that new survey would not be worthwhile; feedback can be received via community forum/public hearings/etc.
    - iv. Discussion of highway maintenance
    - v. Discussion of description of schools
    - vi. Discussion of description of division of tax burden among primary residential vs secondary residential vs woodlands
    - vii. Discussion of whether Budget Committee section is accurate
    - viii. Discussion of Town Services sections (through "Health Services" bulletpoint)

- ix. Discussion of other miscellaneous updates/revisions
- 4. Review Members' Independent Research and Work: None
- 5. Assign New Town Plan Topics to Members
  - a. For next meeting, members to review up to "Energy" section of prior proposed plan
  - b. JO to check with Lynne Morgan regarding school section
  - c. MB to follow up with Hannah re: section on division of tax burden
  - d. JP to ask Budget Committee to review section on Budget Committee
  - e. AT to send Word document to MB to redline current draft
- 6. Adjourn (at 12:20 pm)
  - a. Next meeting on February 6, 2024
  - b. JP to Chair
  - c. Motion to adjourn (AT), seconded (IS), unanimously approved

Mark A. Berman, Secretary