

Town of Harpersfield Planning Board

Minutes: **July 30, 2025**

Present: W. Keller, D. Cole, D. King and D. Darling

Also present: L. Page, N. Brower, Ryan McAteer from DC Planning Department.

Chairman D. Darling called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes of the June 25, 2025 meeting were approved with the following corrections:

N. Brower reported on his recent training session, which is an update on the county's online mapping tool, known as COVIT. **COVIT should be COMIT** an acronym for Community Online Mapping Information Tool.

W. Keller again brought up the issue of groundwater recharge and that it is an issue from the standpoint of natural resources. Groundwater is essential for fish and he said solar panels are not impervious.

Impervious should be changed to pervious.

With those corrections, the minutes were approved on a motion by D. King with a second by D. Cole. Motion carried 4-0.

N. Brower reported that he will do another training in September and will notify planning board members. It is tentatively set for Sept. 9 or Sept. 16. the topic will be the County 239 referrals. In the future he may do another training on COMIT and video tape it. He said the county mapping system also pulls in Federal Emergency Management Agency maps, etc. that can be overlaid onto other maps. He said you can also draw on the map and print it out. It also measures distance and footage. He will send a message regarding the training session.

D. Darling reported the Weaver Road Solar Project is now owned by Bull Peck and attempts to contact them have failed. D.King said he stopped at the site and the person there knew nothing about providing training for the Stamford Fire Dept..

There was a discussion over conditions and having the new company required to appear before the planning board to understand the conditions that are in place. Discussion indicated there is a disconnect between what actually happens and what is supposed to happen. It is a code enforcement issue and D. Darling will speak to the planning board attorney.

The environmental scientists for the Bruce Hill project, engineers for Blue Wave are seeking a site assessment for the record by the code enforcement officer. They want to know if there have been any uses of the site or spills and if there are any existing records. A letter via email was not furnished. Tighe and Bund, project environmental scientists, were referred to code enforcement.

W. Keller reported that DEC is doing a mitigative study and he has a question about groundwater issues. He will get the name of the study and will provide comments.

D. Darling reported that F. Ciulla has turned in his resignation from the planning board to the town board and D. Cole will now become a permanent member of the planning board.

on a motion by D. King, with a second by D. Cole, the meeting was adjourned at 8 p.m.. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Liz Page

Recording secretary.