



TOWN OF JAMESTOWN

**P.O. Box 377
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JAMESTOWN, RHODE ISLAND 02835**

Planning Office (401) 423-7210

Approved as written

PLANNING COMMISSION MINUTES

May 21, 2025

6:30 PM

Jamestown Town Hall

93 Narragansett Ave, Jamestown, RI 02835

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm. The following members were present:

Michael Swistak – Chair

Duncan Pendlebury

Mick Cochran

Diane Harrison

Nick Insana

Bernie Pfeiffer

Dana Prestigiacomio

Also present:

Lisa Bryer, AICP, Town Planner

Carrie Kolb, Planning Assistant

David R. Petrarca, Jr, Esq., Ruggiero, Brochu & Petrarca

Ashley Sweet, Weston & Sampson

II. Citizen's Non-Agenda Item - none

III. Correspondence – Review, Discussion and/or Action and/or Vote:

1. No items at this time

IV. New Business – Review, Discussion and/or Action and/or Vote:

1. No items at this time

V. Old Business

1. Comprehensive Community Plan Update & Re-write 2024/2025 – Review, Discussion, and/or Action and/or Vote
 - a. Draft Review of Element:

Sweet explained the process for reviewing each chapter of the Comprehensive Plan: first round of review, second round of review with Goals, Policies and Actions (GPA), and final round of review and maps. At this point, the chapters are only at second round of review and some GPAs have been reviewed.

Discussion ensued regarding the layout of the comprehensive plan. There are different ways to layout the Comprehensive Plan with all the data, goals, policies and actions. Sweet suggested

the implementation tables will be at the beginning of the Comprehensive Plan. Then each chapter on its own. The question comes to listing overall goals of each chapter in a bulleted format with a couple of policies and actions? Or list all goals, policies and actions at the front? Pendlebury said that he likes the lists because it seems easier to read. Cochran said to be sure that the tables or graphics make it easy to connect goals with actions. Further discussion with examples will take place at the meeting on June 18, 2025.

a. Sustainability and Resilience

This is a second review of this chapter. An overall comment from Commissioner Swistak that trash, waste, recycling & composting are not mentioned in this section. Sweet said that they are covered in the Services & Facilities Chapter. Bryer said needs to be referred to in this chapter.

Page 2 – There is not natural gas in Jamestown, so it should not be a focus.

Page 9 – a disclaimer should be added: “At the time of writing this section, there are changes being made in the federal government and funding. At this time, it is unclear what federal government and funding will look like in the future.”

Page 10 – In section 10.4.1 in the second paragraph add snowfall to the significant hazards.

Page 13 – The Hazard Mitigation Plan was approved by FEMA on December 10, 2024.

Page 19 – clarify that flood insurance is available through FEMA and private insurance markets.

Page 20 – the second paragraph and forth paragraph are redundant. Double check if above ground power lines are listed within Services and Facilities chapter for storm events. If not add to this page.

b. Transportation

This is a second review of this chapter.

Page 5 – Combine sections 8.4.1 Major Roads and 8.4.2 State Roads.

b. Goals, Policies and Actions related to:

a. Sustainability and Resilience

This is a new spreadsheet. In white means it was taken from another section.

Policies:

3.5 – change to “promote use of electric vehicles and...” Add “Encourage the State to do the same.”

Related Actions

1,2.c – Add “utilize Storm Tolls when decision making and work with SeaGrant to keep the information updated.”

2.e- End sentence after “contingency plans”

4.j – Remove

4.l – Change to “Work regionally to develop novel renewable energy solutions”

4.m. – Change to “Investigate programs to support...” Add: “Encourage the State to do the same.”

5.n – Add: “Encourage the State to do the same.”

5.o – Change “provide” to “investigate”

6.p – Remove “Host community workshops to”

8.r – End sentence after “energy systems”

8.s; - Remove

b. Transportation at 7:14

Policies

2.3 – Change to “support the use of electric vehicles (EVs) and low-speed electric transportation in compliance with town policy.

1.2.c –Delete

This table will be revisited at a future meeting as it appears cells have been shifted.

Discussion of next public engagement ensued. The next public engagement workshop will be in August. Sweet said that people will look at action items, make connections, look the problems the Town has and the things that they love about the Town. The workshop will capitalize on what we are doing well. Bryer said the draft will be put online ahead of the workshop and will be broken down into easily digested things to look at the workshop. This workshop will require more legwork from the participants. We can discuss what the workshop/forum will look like at the June 18, 2025 meeting.

VI. Reports - Review, Discussion and/or Action and/or Vote

1. Planner’s Report

a. Future meetings – topics and applications

Bryer explained the meeting on June 4, 2025 will start at 6:00pm. There will be two UDR applications and three High Groundwater applications.

The Financial Town meeting is on June 2, 2025 at Lawn Avenue School at 7pm.

VII. Approval of Minutes – Review, Discussion and/or Action and/or Vote

1. May 7, 2025

A motion was moved by Commissioner Cochran and seconded by Commissioner Pendlebury to approve the minutes from the May 7, 2025 meeting as amended. All in favor.

VIII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn at 7:56pm was moved by Commissioner Cochran and seconded by Commissioner Insana. All in favor.

Attest:

Carrie Kolb