

**Town of Sunderland Planning Board Special Meeting
 Wednesday, October 15, 2025, at 6:00 PM
 104 Mountain View Road Sunderland, VT**

<u>Members in Attendance:</u> Robert Zeif Ben Travis David Kiernan Laura Hammler Gordon Dossett	<u>Others in Attendance:</u> Andrew McKeever Scott Grimm-Lyon Helen Keagan Halley Ryan Downey Jeff Dexter Todd Bryan Halley Nick Merrill Martina Barns
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1. Call to Order at 6:01 PM
2. Introduction to Board Members present: Robert Zeif, Ben Travis, David Kiernan, Laura Hammler, Gordon Dossett
3. Additions or Deletions to the Agenda - None
4. Update to the Town Plan Discussion
 - a. Keagan - Roadcrew
 - i. Hiring of two roadcrew members is in progress
 - ii. Projects: wall needs to be replaced by the covered bridge (priority), two culverts on Dunham Road, box culvert on Sunderland Hill Road, gravel roads may need some attention concerning possible flooding, town garage
 - b. Jeff Dexter - Energy Committee
 - i. Energy Committee \$206,000 MERP Grant for sealing up the Town Garage for heat conservation
 1. Currently in the process of ensuring procedures going forward
 - ii. Sunderland is the first town in the region to become a "Green Procurement Town."
 - iii. Other projects: Uses of the Sunderland Elementary School, window replacements and solar projects for residents, "Sunderland Shines," Green Up Day, Fuel Club, "Button Up Vermont"
 - iv. Communication between the Town and the Energy Committee may be on the Sunderland website and on an email list.
 - c. Merrill - Town Attorney
 - i. Act 174 Energy Amendment for Sunderland

- ii. Look out for new housing initiatives as it pertains to municipal control of housing
 - iii. Data Centers
 - iv. Enforcement processes of Sunderland Ordinances
 - d. Bryan - Chief of Arlington Fire Department
 - i. Underground storage water tanks for future housing development
 - ii. Through roads for more efficient fire truck transportation
 - iii. Make sure house numbers are visible
 - iv. Buffer zones for intervention of future forest fires
 - v. Working on dry hydrants
 - e. Casella
 - i. Three facilities are available in Bennington County with sufficient capacity
 - ii. Closing of the Shaftberry facility has not caused a significant change for traffic
 - iii. About 30 current employees, more staff needed
 - iv. Facility improvements and computer battery safety
 - f. Martina - Manchester District Ranger
 - i. Trail maintenance
 - ii. Outreach events: help with Smokey Bear and Staff outreaches in the schools, Application Trail Community Designations,
 - iii. Awareness of illegal ATV use
- 5. Letter from Orvis: headquarters facility is still for sale
- 6. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 7:15 PM

Mover: David

Second: Gordon

Result: Pass