

Planning Commission Meeting Minutes

September 14, 2026

Present: Annie Budrewicz, Bill Hawkins, James Ozone, Mark Vaillancourt, Jeanne Gervais, Alison Low, Bruce Rumball-Petre

Virtual: Mike Strait

Annie Budrewicz called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

Update to the Agenda: None

Planning Commission Member Recommendation to Selectboard: Jeanne Gervais moved to recommend that the Selectboard appoint Chris Wells to the Planning Commission. Seconded by Mark Vaillancourt. All in favor; motion carried.

Public Comment: None

Town Plan - Alison from NVDA: Alison discussed Flood and Climate Resilience, a critical component of the Town Plan. As she mentioned, flash flooding is the most common form of flooding in our region and will likely occur more frequently in the future. As recent flooding events have proven, bridges and culverts are a major cause of damage and financial loss. Alison emphasized the need to build resilience beyond assistance from FEMA. Even if approved, funding can take months to receive.

The Town must have a Local Hazard Mitigation Plan to receive assistance and to further the goal of building resilience outside of traditional disaster relief sources. Alison's report identified a range of hazards, including severe winter storm/ice accumulation; extreme temperatures, fire, and drought; infectious disease; and high winds.

The Local Hazard Mitigation Plan requires FEMA approval and must contain substantial technical data and detailed recommendations. Alison discussed specific actions to reduce Brighton's vulnerability to flooding and build climate resilience, including: participating in the FEMA buy-out program as necessary; investigating storm water management strategies for vulnerable infrastructure, continuing to assess the condition of critical infrastructure (i.e. bridges and culverts), and reviewing the Local Hazard Mitigation Plan annually. Additionally, the Zoning Administrator could receive and maintain a Certified Floodplain Manager accreditation.

Zoning Administrator Update: Bruce informed the Planning Commission that three permits are in process. The property with storage containers discussed at previous meetings is for sale. There is a letter in the property records to alert potential buyers that there is a violation notice in effect. Bruce also advised members that multiple people have inquired about making Bilodeau Road a Town-maintained road. This must go to the Selectboard, and the road must meet specific criteria.

Approve Minutes of Previous Meeting: Jeanne Gervais moved to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. Seconded by Mark Vaillancourt. All in favor; motion carried.

Other Business: None

Adjourn: Jeanne Gervais moved to adjourn at 6:55pm. Seconded by Mark Vaillancourt. All in favor; meeting adjourned.