

**Town of Amherst  
Planning Commission Minutes  
October 5, 2016**

A meeting of the Town of Amherst Planning Commission was called to order by Chairperson June Driskill in the Council Chambers of the new Town Hall at 174 S. Main Street at 7:30 PM on October 5, 2016. It was noted that a quorum was present as indicated below:

A Kevin Belcher	P William Jones
P June Driskill	A Kenneth Bunch
A Ted Finney	P Rachel Thompson
P Clifford Hart	

Deputy Town Clerk Vicki Hunt and Town Manager Jack Hobbs, in his capacity as Secretary to the Commission, were present.

Minutes from the August 3, 2016 Commission meeting were approved on a motion by Mr. Hart, seconded by Mrs. Thompson, and carried 4-0 according to the following:

Kevin Belcher	Absent	William Jones	Aye
June Driskill	Aye	Kenneth Bunch	Absent
Ted Finney	Absent	Rachel Thompson	Aye
Clifford Hart	Aye		

### **Comprehensive Plan**

An updated draft of the Town of Amherst 2016 Comprehensive Plan was distributed to the Commission. After discussion, the Commission determined that in light of VDOT rules on transportation elements further updates and changes to the plan are necessary.

### **Sign Ordinance**

The Commission previously received and reviewed the 2016 Analysis prepared by Signage Foundation, Inc., pertaining to the effects of *Reed v. Town of Gilbert* 576 U.S. (June 2015), on sign ordinances and how cities and towns must comply with the Supreme Court ruling. Town Attorney Tom Berry appeared and participated in a discussion on the legal issues involved concerning amendments to the Town's current sign ordinance versus a general revision to comply with *Reed*, 576 U.S. (June 2015).

### **Potential Zoning Ordinance Amendments**

A list of potential zoning ordinance amendments, including those suggested by the Urban Development Area Study, was distributed to the Commission. The Commission agreed to hold discussions on the potential amendments at the next regularly scheduled meeting as proposed by the Secretary.

**Pedestrian Safety and Downtown Walkability Study Project**

Graphics that summarized the consultant's proposal were available for review. The Secretary invited the Commission to participate in the community meeting on the project that is schedule for 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM on October 18, 2016 in the Town Hall.

**Wayfinding Study Project**

The Secretary presented an oral report on the status of the wayfinding project.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:26 PM on a motion by Mrs. Thompson that was seconded by Mr. Jones and carried 4-0 according to the following:

Kevin Belcher	Absent	William Jones	Aye
June Driskill	Aye	Kenneth Bunch	Absent
Ted Finney	Absent	Rachel Thompson	Aye
Clifford Hart	Aye		

\_\_\_\_\_  
June Driskill, Chairperson

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_