

**Town of Hinesburg
Planning Commission
April 26, 2017
Approved May 10, 2017**

Members Present: Maggie Gordon, Barbara Forauer, Dennis Place, Joe Iadanza, John Kiedaisch, James Donegan arrived at 7:38 pm

Members Absent: Rolf Kielman, Jeff French

Public Present: None.

Also Present: Dawn Morgan (Recording Secretary)

Joe I. chaired the meeting, which was called to order at 7:30 pm.

Agenda Changes: None.

Public Comments for Non-Agenda Items: None.

Zoning Administrator Recommendations - Follow up from April 12 meeting, and new recommendation

Joe I. said the recommended candidate for the Zoning Administrator had rescinded his application. He said that the Commission now needed to decide whether to offer the position to the 2nd candidate or reopen the job search.

Maggie G. said that the 2nd candidate had good qualifications and seemed interested in the process. John K. agreed and said that even though the candidate did not have direct experience she seemed like a smart person who could learn, especially with Staff support. Barbara F. agreed saying that the candidate could bring a different perspective to the position, which would be a positive thing. Dennis P. agreed and noted that activity in the zoning department is relatively slow right now which could give her a good opportunity to learn.

Maggie G. **made a motion to recommend Suzanne Mantegna to the Select Board for consideration of appointment to the Zoning Administrator position.** Barbara F. **seconded the motion.** The Board voted **5-0.**

Village Growth Area – Rezoning & Design Standards: Official Map Revisions (cont'd from March 22 meeting)

Joe I. suggested reviewing potential intersection improvement areas, which are currently circled and numbered on the map. Barbara F. asked for clarification on whether community facilities (represented by brown areas on the map) were meant to be privately owned businesses or Town owned facilities. There was some discussion about Lot 1, and Joe I. suggested adjusting that definition as well as the lines of delineation since the “old” police station has been sold.

Joe I. clarified that the community facility areas would likely be Town owned eventually, but are not necessarily owned by the Town right now. He went on to say that the map should be as specific as possible, as it would be used as a tool to begin a conversation with current land owners about the parcels. He said that the definition for Lot 1 could include language supporting a common park area with a park & ride easily accessible from Rte 116. Joe I. then said that the idea would be to identify a parcel and put into the narrative a specific description of planned use for the area. He said that the map could then be integrated into the Town Plan. Barbara F. agreed that it was important to be specific.

There was some discussion about the intersection circle #1. Both Dennis P. and John K. said that putting a roundabout at that intersection would not be advantageous to the intersection. Dennis P. suggested removing intersection #1 from the map, and Dennis P. noted that there is already a light located at that intersection. The Commission agreed to remove circle #1 from the map.

Joe I. turned the conversation to circle #2 and suggested breaking it into two circles (one for the Rte 116/Shelburne Falls Rd. intersection and one for the library/health center area). There was discussion about the roads leading into the library/bank, out of the gas station and the road on the opposite side of Shelburne Falls Rd. that leads into the health facility. There was additional discussion about the previously planned road that has since been removed. Joe I. said he thought the roads along Shelburne Falls Rd. might be misaligned and, if so, they could be marked on the map for a future alignment solution. Dennis P. said he thought the State would address the intersection of Rte 116 and Shelburne Falls Rd.

There was discussion about the impact on traffic patterns at intersection #2 by morning/afternoon CVU traffic, as well as potential development in the area. Maggie G. noted that the installation of turning lanes and adjustments to the light at Rte 116 would help immensely. John K. suggested a description noting that traffic control for the area would be determined after the results of the State’s work at the Rte 116 intersection. Joe I. reiterated his concern that descriptions be as specific as possible. John K. questioned whether the description could call for specific improvements before the State’s work is complete. Joe I. said that the Commission could either accept the misalignment and remove the circle around the library/health center, or keep it circled with a description calling for future assessment. John K. agreed, saying that it would give a future Commission an opportunity to review it at a later date.

There was additional general discussion about the current circle #2 and the Commission agreed to create two circles: #2 Rte 116 intersection and #7 the library/health center section of Shelburne Falls Rd.

Maggie G. suggested a roundabout at intersection #3. Barbara F. agreed that one would fit at that intersection. John K. noted that the town has investment at the intersection in the form of a rain garden and a community park. Barbara F. said that there is already a right hand turning lane at the intersection. John K. suggested a light, and Joe I. said that there is already a light at Charlotte Rd. which is not far away from #3. John K. said that, in his experience, people allow cars from Silver St. to pull onto Rte 116 and as a result the intersection works fairly well. John K. also pointed out that there is a school cross walk that stops traffic close to #3.

Joe I. said that slowing traffic near the school is not necessarily a bad thing. He went on to say that there is no requirement for traffic from Rte 116 to allow Silver St. traffic to enter. There was general discussion about ideas for metering traffic (a 3-way stop, a flexible system involving controllable lights during high volume times, etc.). Joe I. said that the description should be specific about what the Commission does not want at #3, such as a roundabout. John K. reiterated that the installation of a roundabout would result in a significant loss to the community (e.g. the rain garden & community park).

Maggie G. said that she is not comfortable with removing the roundabout from the description when the scoping study has not been completed yet. The commission agreed that the #3 description should continue to include a roundabout and also reference a light or other metered traffic control device.

Joe I. suggested that the description for #4 should specifically say “no traffic lights”, and then make reference to one-way or limited turn capabilities (right turn allowed from Mechanicsville Rd. onto Rte 116 going north/no left turn onto Rte 116, and right turn allowed from Rte 116 onto Mechanicsville Rd). There was general discussion about how well the intersection is currently working, largely due to the kindness of cross traffic drivers allowing cars to merge into traffic.

Maggie G. said that she had heard discussion about making Mechanicsville Rd. one-way for a portion of the road. Dennis P. and James D. noted that it could have a negative impact on the business complex nearby. Joe I. said that the alignment of the intersection is not ideal and there was general discussion about ways to adjust it, including the possibility of demolishing the storage building if it is ever removed from service. James D. said that he has never had a problem turning left off of Mechanicsville Rd. John K. suggested creating structures in the road (such as curbing) that would guide traffic to turn right and not allow left turns.

Dennis P. said that of all the intersections, a roundabout made the most sense here. John K. noted that roundabouts are typically in areas where traffic is encouraged to keep moving, which creates a difficult situation for pedestrians. John K. suggested a push button stoplight that stops all traffic for pedestrians, and Joe I. reiterated that he does not want a full stoplight at #4. Maggie G. suggested a crosswalk further south near the cheese factory

The Commission agreed that the description should include language saying there should not be a light due to the proximity to the Charlotte Rd. and Commerce St. lights. Other language suggestions for the description included: other possible improvements including realignment (which may require the removal of the shed), a one-way section of Mechanicsville Rd., and limited turning capabilities.

The Commission agreed that intersection #5 should not include a 4-way stop or traffic light, but would be a good candidate for a roundabout.

The Commission agreed that intersection #6 currently works well but the description could include a 4-way stop in the future if needed.

Dennis P. suggested adding a circle #8 at the Charlotte Rd./Lantman's intersection, indicating that there are traffic light, sidewalk and alignment improvements yet to be completed. The Commission agreed.

There was general discussion about the intersection of Richmond Rd., North Rd., and Texas Hill Rd. Joe I. noted that the official map was focused on the village area, but that the Commission could discuss the intersection in the future, in relation to a town-wide map.

Dennis suggested adding the Bisonnette Play Fields as a town facility. The Commission agreed, but was unclear as to the exact location of the fields. There was much discussion about sections currently identified as brown on the map. Joe I. suggested asking Alex W. for more specific details of who owns certain parcels and if there may be restrictions on the properties (e.g. current use) that the Town should take into account when planning.

James D. suggested adding a brown section north of Riggs Rd., either at a view point in the field or up higher on the hill. Maggie G. agreed and suggested adding a trail leading up to the view point.

Joe I. suggested that the Commissioners could think about facilities they see the town needing in the next 20-30 years and at the next meeting they could list them and talk about the appropriate area to place them on the map. He said the sections should be numbered and accompanied by a description. Joe I. went on to suggest implementing the items that Alex W. had previously written up.

The Commission agreed to continue the conversation at the next meeting.

Minutes of 04/12/17 Meeting: Maggie G. **made a motion to approve the 04/12/17 minutes as written.** James D. **seconded the motion.** The Board voted **5-0.**

Other Business & Correspondence

Joe I. said that he had received two email inquiries from prospective applicants for the vacant Commission position. He encouraged them to apply and said they will wait to see what the Select Board decides about the appointment.

Barbara F. announced that the Burlington Marathon is looking for volunteers and invited the Commissioners to spread the word.

Joe I. **made a motion to adjourn the meeting**. James D. **seconded the motion**. The Commission voted **5-0**.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Morgan, Recording Secretary

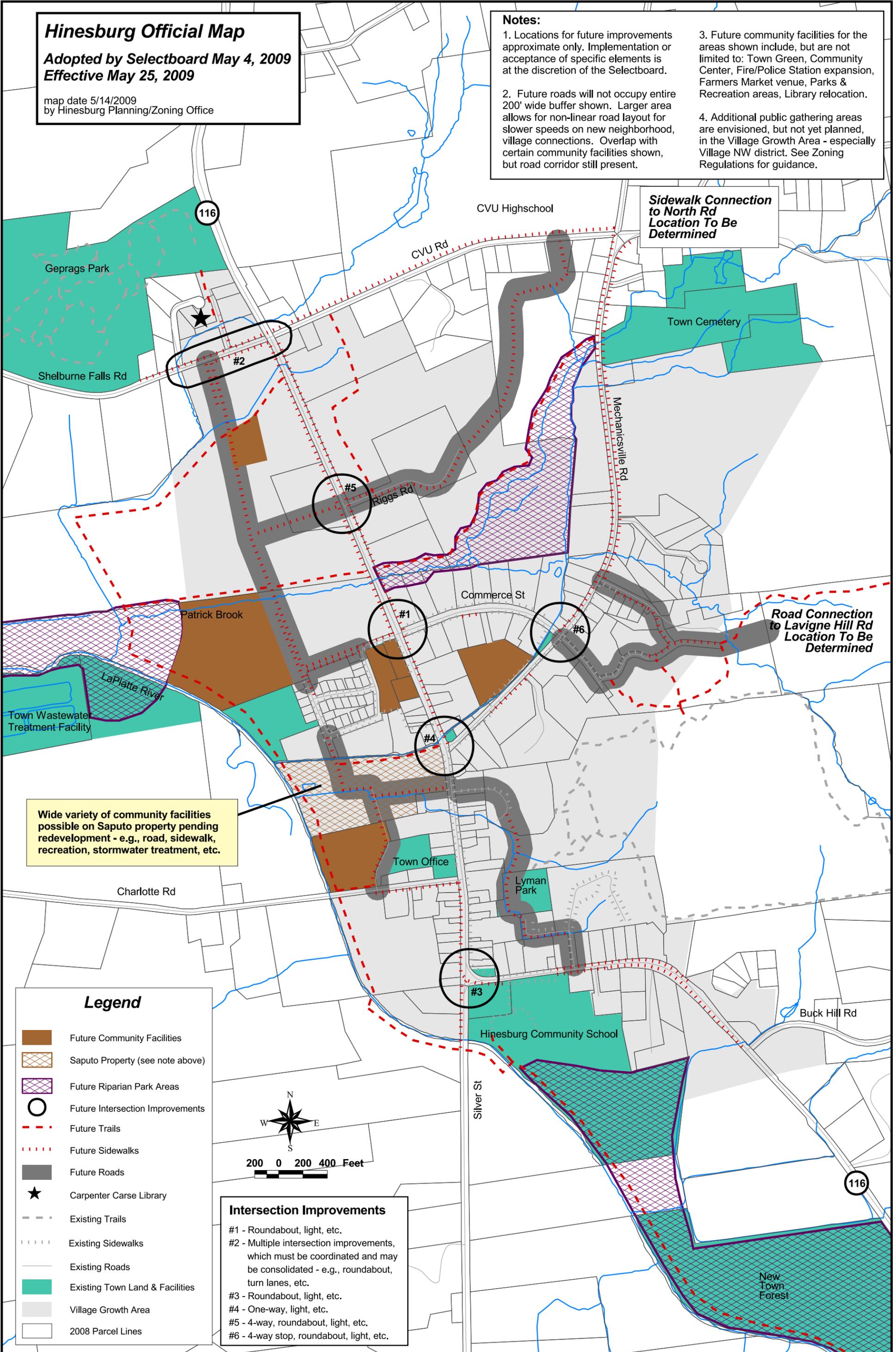
Hinesburg Official Map

Adopted by Selectboard May 4, 2009
Effective May 25, 2009

map date 5/14/2009
by Hinesburg Planning/Zoning Office

Notes:

1. Locations for future improvements approximate only. Implementation or acceptance of specific elements is at the discretion of the Selectboard.
2. Future roads will not occupy entire 200' wide buffer shown. Larger area allows for non-linear road layout for slower speeds on new neighborhood, village connections. Overlap with certain community facilities shown, but road corridor still present.
3. Future community facilities for the areas shown include, but are not limited to: Town Green, Community Center, Fire/Police Station expansion, Farmers Market venue, Parks & Recreation areas, Library relocation.
4. Additional public gathering areas are envisioned, but not yet planned, in the Village Growth Area - especially Village NW district. See Zoning Regulations for guidance.



Sidewalk Connection to North Rd Location To Be Determined

Road Connection to Lavigne Hill Rd Location To Be Determined

Wide variety of community facilities possible on Saputo property pending redevelopment - e.g., road, sidewalk, recreation, stormwater treatment, etc.

Legend

- Future Community Facilities
- Saputo Property (see note above)
- Future Riparian Park Areas
- Future Intersection Improvements
- Future Trails
- Future Sidewalks
- Future Roads
- Carpenter Carse Library
- Existing Trails
- Existing Sidewalks
- Existing Roads
- Existing Town Land & Facilities
- Village Growth Area
- 2008 Parcel Lines

Intersection Improvements

- #1 - Roundabout, light, etc.
- #2 - Multiple intersection improvements, which must be coordinated and may be consolidated - e.g., roundabout, turn lanes, etc.
- #3 - Roundabout, light, etc.
- #4 - One-way, light, etc.
- #5 - 4-way, roundabout, light, etc.
- #6 - 4-way stop, roundabout, light, etc.

