



Town of Hinesburg, Vermont
Application form for Town Commission, Board, and Committee Appointments

Please supply answers to the following. The Town will provide access to a computer and printer for any applicant for the purpose of completing this form.

Name of Applicant: Matt Baldwin Date: _____

Mailing Address: 2188 Baldwin Road Hinesburg

Phone Number: 482-2589 E-mail Address: MattinVT7@aol.com

Name of Commission, Board, or Committee: Planning Commission

Hinesburg Resident: Y / N (circle one)

Hinesburg Resident for how long? 30 years / NA

1) Review the Mission Statement of the Commission, Board, or Committee you are applying to serve on and explain how you will aid the group achieve said Mission.

I would like to bring a new perspective as local farmer, landowner and someone that cares about the future of agriculture in the town.

2) Please share your thoughts about implementation of at least two of the Top Priority Goals and Recommendations in the latest Town Plan (Section 9, page 75), as it relates to the Commission, Board, or Commission on which you are applying to serve.

→ I very much support expanding allowed uses in the AG areas. Creative support for those trying to farm is appreciated.
→ Agree with encouraging affordable housing where possible, creating more is reasonable to expect as a % of regular development

3) Review the scheduled meeting day/time of the Commission, Board, or Committee along with the length of the term of the position. Will you be able to regularly make the meetings? Y / N Will you be able to serve for the term of the position? Y / N

4) Please introduce yourself to the Selectboard by providing a short cover letter and/or a resume.

9. IMPLEMENTATION

A Town Plan, by nature, offers wide-ranging recommendations on a variety of issues affecting a town. Without specific implementation efforts, these recommendations may remain no more than well-intentioned general goals. This chapter of the plan suggests specific actions, responsible parties, and timelines for many of the goals and recommendations from earlier chapters. These lists are not intended to cover all possible actions by the town. However, it does offer some of the more important steps that may be taken to implement this plan.

Top Priority Goals & Recommendations

(NOT listed in priority order – i.e., all listed constitute top priority goals & recommendations)

- Develop permanent zoning for the 15.4-acre Saputo property (now under interim zoning) in order to encourage and allow for uses that will bring value to the community (particularly economic development and employment) and be consistent with the surrounding mix of residential, commercial, and civic uses. (3.2.5b, 3.3.1d)
- Create a clearer system for determining allowed development density for the rural areas that gives everyone more predictability in the review process, while helping retain natural resources and important farm and forest lands. Refine and fine tune this system as natural resource assessments improve, priority resource areas are identified, and as a Town Greenspace Plan is developed. (3.4.1b, 3.4.3b, 3.4.4b, 4.9.1)
- Study the current and future impacts of storm water runoff on the town's surface waters, and consider writing tighter provisions in the regulations. Consider innovative and "low impact development" techniques that help minimize stormwater runoff. Since roads are a major contributor to stormwater runoff, start these efforts with Town and private roads (3.2.8f, 4.3.2b)
- To encourage affordable and reasonably priced housing, in part by pursuing opportunities to bring affordable housing units to Hinesburg, with consideration of impacts to public services. (2.2.1)
- To guide transportation program maintenance and improvement to mitigate increasing traffic congestion (especially on the Route 116 corridor within the village) and bolster economic development, while also supporting efforts to promote ridesharing, public transportation use, and other alternative transportation options. (6.1g, 6.2a, 6.3)
- Evaluate Town recreational needs, and create a strategic plan for the future that includes present and desired future programs. (5.4, 5.4.1b)
- Require adequate vegetative buffers and erosion control along rivers, streams, and lakes to protect water quality, allow natural channel modification, and protect buildings. Consider differentiating buffers based on land use. (4.3.1a)
- Improve existing and future transportation network connectivity for pedestrians and vehicles. Develop policies and incentives, which encourage developers to plan for and create interconnected transportation networks as part of future development. Evaluate improvements to selected Class IV roads to function better as recreation and alternate transportation paths as components of the town-wide trail network. (5.4.1j, 6.4c, 6.5e, 6.6a)

- Develop zoning policies and bylaws which allow open space enterprises such as, but not limited to: community farms, farm-based bed & breakfasts and event-hosting facilities, cross-country ski facilities, game preserves or similar businesses. (3.4.6b)
- Encourage sustainable economic development in Hinesburg that embodies the values expressed in this Plan, benefits of which include job creation, broadening of the tax base, and a local & sustainable economy. Although mentioned in various sections (e.g., 1.5 – Goals 2.3 & 2.4; 3.2; 3.3), economic development deserves more attention in the next Town Plan – perhaps as a new standalone section with more specific goals and recommendations.