Town of Belgrade

Comprehensive Plan Review Committee Meeting Minutes of October 25, 2023

Meeting Convened at 5:30 pm/Adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Members in attendance: Pat Donahue, Dee Cooke, Anthony Wilson. Additional attendees: Jessica Cobb and Grain Shaw - KVCOG, Barbara Allen - Belgrade Selectboard Chairperson, and Lorna Nichols - Belgrade Town Manager.

General Discussion: The Community Profile of Population and Demographics prepared by KVCOG was presented by Jessica Cobb and Grainne Shaw of KVCOG for the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee, Belgrade Selectboard Chairperson and Belgrade Town Manager's review and input.

Population change was examined from 1860 to 2020 count by census year, and what influenced the changes. Numbers within age ranges, as well as male vs female, and types of households in relation to population were noted. Also population density was discussed and how area of lakes in the community could influence the numbers. What may be future housing needs was also a topic of interest.

Belgrade's population was also compared to trends in nearby towns including Readfield, Manchester, Sidney, and Oakland as these towns share the similar characteristic of being lake communities. It was suggested that Rome and China be added as they are also part of the RSU school district and could also shed interesting light on trends.

School enrollment was also an area of discussion, and how one might obtain the numbers of community children being home schooled.

The Comprehensive Plan Review Committee is open to public feedback and encourages residents to attend meetings. A survey for the public will be a priority in the coming months.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 15th at 5:30 pm with the subject of Local Economy. Meetings will run approximately one hour.