



TOWN OF LYNDON
SELECTBOARD HEARING
TOWN PLAN
September 2, 2020
6:00 PM

Selectboard

Dan Daley
Christian Thompson, Chair

Press

Amy Nixon
Hailey Morgan

Public

Steve Gray, Annie McLean, Marty Feltus, Nancy Blankenship, Derek Blankenship, Julia Tucker, Barclay Tucker, Pierce Thompson, Louis "Joe" Buzzi, Holly Taylor, Pauline Harris, Sean McFeeley, Wendy Beattie, Larry Willey, Susan Mills, Curtis Carpenter, Roni Leach, Tammy Martell, Ken Mason, Sylvia Dodge, Levi Gardner, Sarah Whittemore, Brooke Dingleline, Martha Elmes, Mary Jane Miller, Robert Gardner, Mark Bean, 274-9532

Christian Thompson, Chair of the Lyndon Selectboard called the hearing to order promptly at 6:00 PM. Upon beginning the discussion, it was clear that there were some technical difficulties that needed to be worked on so that everyone could hear the conversation clearly on the ZOOM conference call. At 6:15 PM Mr. Thompson began the introduction to the hearing by introducing himself and Dan Daley as the two members of the Selectboard who were present.

He quickly asked if there were four or more members of the Planning Commission present. Since it was confirmed that there were 4 or more Planning Commission Members present Sean McFeeley called the Planning Commission meeting to order at this point.

Christian Thompson laid out some basic guidelines for how the hearing would work. He explained that the board would move through the Town Plan, chapter by chapter, and anyone with a specific question relating to a particular chapter could address the Board at that point with their question(s). Mr. Thompson stressed the importance of addressing the Board with concerns and not attempting to talk over one another.

At this point Mr. Thompson asked Sean McFeeley and Annie McLean to briefly describe the process to this point. Mr. McFeeley began by explaining the steps that the Planning Commission took in order to receive input from the public. Those steps included: creating a website "Envision Lyndon", A Town-wide mailing seeking input, an online survey, six Town Plan workshops, meeting blasts, and taking input from the previously held VCRD meetings. Mr. McFeeley felt that the community provided great input and, in many instances, took the commission members in a totally different direction with their thinking. Annie McLean added that the Planning Commission held their hearing in late January and made some changes to the draft and presented the Selectboard with the Version that is being considered this evening.

Christian Thompson at this point opened the hearing up to public comment. (Please refer to the attached document for detailed comments and written submissions on each section).

The was no comment from the public on the implementation section of the plan.

Current & Future Land Use Section: Steve Gray provided written comment and Curtis Carpenter spoke regarding land use relating to zoning districts and municipal water and wastewater services.

Economic Development: Steve Gray provided written comment. Holly Taylor asked a question pertaining to the use of the Colonnade Inn.

Transportation Section: Steve Gray provided written comment. Nancy Blankenship asked a question pertaining to sidewalks on Broad Street. Dan Daley & Justin Smith provided an update on what they believed was the latest plan for sidewalks on Broad Street as part of the VTrans project.

Community Services & Facilities: Steve Gray provided written comments.

Energy: Steve Gray provided written comments regarding the need for additional streetlights. An unidentified person commented that additional lighting would be a welcoming feature to those who were visiting our Town.

Housing: Curtis Carpenter encouraged considering a reduction in lot sizes for residential uses, in particular properties with municipal water and sewer.

Health & Recreation: Steve Gray provided written comment. Mary Jane Miller and Libby Welch both provided written comment asking for the plan to encourage the addition of Pickleball courts to the Town.

Historic Resources: Jim Gallagher provided written comment about the need to consider changes to the parking requirements for the York Street Meeting House. He also suggested a correction be considered to properly identify the former train depot location when referencing the Freighthouse Restaurant on page 64 of the Plan.

Curtis Carpenter provided comment that there should be a statement suggesting that the municipality investigate funding options for fixing the covered bridges.

Flood Resilience: Steve Gray, Cathy Boykin, Marty Feltus (on behalf of the Flood Committee), and Mark Bean provided written comments regarding the Flood Resiliency section of the plan. In addition to his own written comments, Mark Bean also provided a letter that was written by Nate Sicard in January during the Planning Commission hearing that was addressed to both the Planning Commission and Selectboard.

Ken Burchesky provided comment that there needed to be more flood storage capacity, or the water needed better access to the areas that could store flood waters.

Marty Feltus read most of the written comments she provided on behalf of the flood study committee into the record.

Mark Bean in addition to his written comments stated that he agreed with the comments Marty Feltus had provided, and in addition he felt a few more of the suggestions from Nate Sicard that were provided at the Planning Commission hearing should also be considered by the Selectboard.

Ken Mason commented that Nate Sicard was consulted 2 or 3 times during the Flood Regulations Working Group's work. He wanted to assure Mr. Bean that professionals in the field were being utilized.

Hearing no additional comments Christian Thompson offered some closing remarks.

Marty Feltus took the opportunity to state she was very impressed with the document as a whole; she liked the formatting and the organization of the document. Sean McFeeley expressed his gratitude to Annie McLean for putting the document together and organizing it. Annie McLean recognized the Planning Commission and said that the Plan was a group effort. Ms. McLean also expressed thanks to those who participated in the photo contest for the Town Plan and said the photographers would be given credit for their photos at the back of the document.

Having no other business, the hearing adjourned at 7:12 PM.

Hearing adjourned at 7:12 PM

Minutes taken by Justin Smith

Approved by the Selectboard: _____