

**TOWN OF LYNDON**  
**PLANNING COMMISSION**  
**June 26, 2019 Meeting Minutes**  
*Approved 7/10/19*

**Planning Commissioners:** Sean McFeeley, Sylvia Dodge, Evan Carlson, Susan Hanus, Ken Mason, Tammy Martel

**Public Official(s):** None

**Press:** None

**Public:** Dan Daley, Martha Elliott, Steve Gray

Sean McFeeley chaired the meeting, which was called to order at 6:01 p.m. and introduced the Envision Lyndon 2020 Town Plan Energy and Transportation Community Planning Workshop. Sean provided some background information on the structure of the Town Plan and facilitated a series of breakout activities designed to capture community input for the Town Plan Update. Members of the Planning Commission and the public split up into two groups; one for Energy and one for Transportation.

Sylvia Dodge made a **motion to approve the minutes of June 12, 2019**. Sean McFeeley **seconded the motion**. The Commission **voted 6-0**.

The next Planning Commission meeting is scheduled for July 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by: SMcfeeley*

# ENERGY

## Statewide Energy Goals:

*To make efficient use of energy, provide for the development of renewable energy resources, and reduce emissions of greenhouse gases.*

- *Specific strategies and recommendations for achieving these goals are identified in the State energy plans prepared under 30 V.S.A. §§ 202 and 202b.*
- *General strategies for achieving these goals include increasing the energy efficiency of new and existing buildings; identifying areas suitable for renewable energy generation; encouraging the use and development of renewable or lower emission energy sources for electricity, heat, and transportation; and reducing transportation energy demand and single occupancy vehicle use.*

## Goals, Objectives, and Actions: What's the Difference?

*Our Town Plan is required to provide: A statement of objectives of the municipality to guide the future growth and development of land, public services, and facilities, and to protect the environment.*

It is helpful to think of goals, objectives, and actions as a hierarchy with the broadest goals at the top, and each subsequent category having increasing levels of specificity, with actions being the most specific. Aim to use clear language with active verbs like study, adopt, enforce, and create.

**Goals** state a purpose and destination, reflecting the shared vision for the community. They articulate an overarching principle that guides decision-making, providing a framework for the more detailed action statements. The goals within a plan must be internally consistent. Achieving one goal should not prevent or hinder achieving another goal. They should also not be so vague that their meaning is open to many interpretations. They should be both challenging and attainable.

**Objectives** provide targets for the accomplishment of goals. They should be specific enough that the municipality can determine when the objectives have been met. Effective objectives are SMART: Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant, and Time-bound. The time frame (long term, intermediate term, and short term) for the objective should be clear.

**Actions** are the next steps needed to move toward the objectives. These are concrete activities that can be described in specific terms. Actions should identify the responsible party, the time frame for accomplishment and any necessary resources to get the job done. Actions also include “programs.”

## Current Town Plan Goals, Objectives, and Actions

*The Current Town Plan does not clearly articulate an overarching energy goal however, the Town Plan identifies the following objectives and actions that relate to energy:*

OBJECTIVE: Maintain adequate energy at reasonable costs for the Town of Lyndon's residential and commercial customers.

OBJECTIVE: Continue to encourage residents and businesses to conserve energy resources and manage natural resources responsibly. Use of alternate, sustainable and renewable sources of energy could be considered where feasible.

OBJECTIVE: Encourage LED to develop a long-term energy plan for future growth based on the principles of cost efficiency, sustainability and self-sufficiency

# ENERGY

## ACTIONS:

- a) New or remodeled construction (whether residential or commercial) should take advantage of energy efficiency standards which have been developed for building materials, insulation, heating/cooling, lighting, etc. When planning construction or building upgrade the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building Rating System should be incorporated into the construction/upgrade plan. The utilization of all available information on energy efficient construction and efficient energy use also should be encouraged. This information is available from building contractors, LED, Efficiency Vermont, building material dealers, heating/plumbing/cooling contractors, appliance dealers, Act 250 guidelines, etc.
- b) Additionally, on-site sustainable energy production such as solar, geothermal, etc. might be considered.
- c) As part of a management plan, a review of public buildings should be conducted with reference to energy efficiency. Where feasible, modifications should be made to improve energy efficiency and/or conservation. Additionally, a study should be done of time-of-day metering of electricity and initiation of usage if warranted.
- d) Encourage area lending institutions to offer energy efficiency incentives in their construction loans.
- e) Encourage public and private utilization of alternative, sustainable and renewable forms of energy including (but not limited to) hydro, solar, wood and co-generation. Consider the development of a multi-phase long-term sustainable energy plan.
- f) An inspection should be conducted of all public lighting to determine if more efficient fixtures or systems would be feasible.
- g) Encourage Lyndon residents to consider the efficiency of an appliance before purchasing one. This is especially important when choosing a home or industrial heating system.
- h) Consider changes to infrastructure to allow the Town to provide power to public buildings should the grid go down for an extended period.
- i) Continue to encourage conservation. Schools and public buildings should set examples of good conservation practices by using energy efficient building materials; minimizing heat/cooling loss through windows and doors; and shutting down small appliances or computers that do not need to be on all the time. Efficient transportation such as carpooling should also be encouraged.
- j) The production, distribution and use of biomass should be encouraged, as well as the implementation and use of cogeneration, solar-electric panels, solar domestic hot water and radiant heat whenever possible. Additionally, if biomass is used it must be produced and used in conjunction with appropriate conservation practices. These practices should especially be encouraged and used in public buildings to help educate the public on the benefits of such practices.
- k) Encourage LED to do a cost/benefit analysis for putting the Vail Hydro Station back online and pursue repairs if shown to be cost effective.
- l) Encourage LED to consider incentives for energy conservation at the consumer level.

# ENERGY

## GOALS/OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS – PUBLIC INPUT 6/26/19

- Install solar arrays to be used as auto charging station
- Also see attached written comments submitted by Town Energy Coordinator Ken Burchesky.

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Town Energy Plan - Lyndon

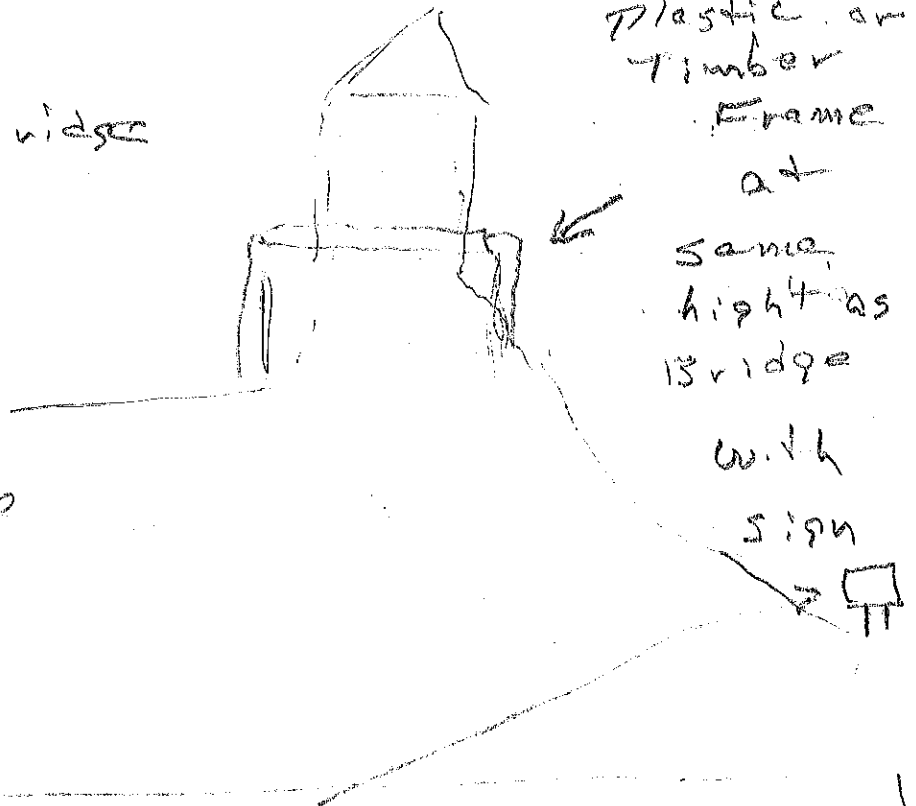
study areas where flood plain capacity can be increased, this will reduce costs when flooding occurs and allow Lyndonville Electric to make more electricity as high water eventually moves down stream to Doll + Great Falls Station.

(Note: high water can exceed LED's penstock capacity and high water tends to wash trees, tree limbs, etc. down to the trash racks and causes electric production to cease.)

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LYNDONVILLE Transportation Town Plan

Miller's Run  
covered Bridge



Warning

IF your vehicle hits this  
Frame - you are exceeding height  
limit and you shall be fined  
for cost of Repairs

P.S. I am told that the drive thru at  
McDonald's has a plastic frame for height  
limit

# TRANSPORTATION

## Statewide Transportation Goal:

*To provide for safe, convenient, economic and energy efficient transportation systems that respect the integrity of the natural environment, including public transit options and paths for pedestrians and bicyclers.*

- *Highways, air, rail, and other means of transportation should be mutually supportive, balanced, and integrated.*

## Goals, Objectives, and Actions: What's the Difference?

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# TRANSPORTATION

## Current Town Plan Goals, Objectives, and Actions

*The Current Town Plan identifies working with the Vermont Agency of Transportation to finalize and implement a redesign of Broad Street and the further study of downtown traffic circulation and parking in order to develop a workable plan as top priorities. The Town Plan identifies the following objectives and actions for achieving Lyndon's transportation goals:*

OBJECTIVE: Continue to encourage development of "rail friendly" businesses along the rail spur that the State owns between East Street and Church Street.

OBJECTIVE: Work to reduce traffic hazards and congestion through Lyndon.

OBJECTIVE: Provide for adequate parking in town.

OBJECTIVE: Improve pedestrian and bicyclist safety.

OBJECTIVE: Support air and train services appropriate to Lyndon's development needs.

### ACTIONS:

- a) Require that development projects meet Town standards for road construction. Encourage paved roads where commonsense dictates paving them.
- b) Encourage the development of Lyndon & Lyndonville public parking facilities.
- c) Examine existing studies, such as the Burke Mountain Area Transportation Infrastructure Study and the Corridor Management Plan to determine their impact on the Town Plan and Capital Budget Improvement Plan.
- d) Encourage use of more mass transportation (e.g. RCT). Support more usable (user friendly) schedules and routes.
- e) Pursue support and funding for improvements that are consistent with other aspects of the Town Plan for Route 5 from I-91 to the intersections of Routes 114 and 122.
- f) Pursue support and funding for improvements that are consistent with other aspects of the Town Plan for Routes 114 and 122.
- g) Continue to support proposed safety improvements to the Caledonia County State Airport.
- h) Continue to encourage the development of "rail friendly" businesses along the existing rail spur.
- i) Petition the State to reassess the priority of the Broad Street improvements.



# TRANSPORTATION

## GOALS/OBJECTIVES & ACTIONS – PUBLIC INPUT 6/26/19

- Provide better walkways for pedestrians on south end of Main St. 7 College Rd.
  - Continue to advocate for walkability in Town.
  - Support Bik-Ped Committee initiatives to build trails.
  
- Look at public transportation improvements to increase ridership.
  - Add park and ride to south end of Town.
  - Work with RTC to increase frequency of routes.
  - Find local Lyndon/Burke route for RTC.
  
- Accessibility in and out of Lyndonville.
  - Explore rotaries & get data to understand benefits.
  - Work with VTrans to look at improving traffic flow.
  - Generate ideas for Route 5 rebuild and present to VTrans.
  - Consider making Broad St. one-way (northbound) and Main St. one-way (southbound) to improve traffic flow through the Village.
  
- Improve north end traffic flow at major intersection.
  - Explore rotaries, get data from VTrans on benefits of rotaries in VT.