

**Town of New Haven Selectboard  
work session on Town Plan  
9:00 am  
Saturday, August 20, 2016  
Town Offices**

Present: Chair, Kathy Barrett, Vice Chair, Steve Dupoise, John Roleau, Doug Tolles, Jim Walsh, and Clerk, Pam Kingman

Visitors: Town Attorney, Cindy Hill, Ethel Seguin, Regent Seguin, Rob Litch and Dave Pidgeon

The Selectboard met with Attorney Hill to review the draft Town Plan. She would like to make her priority the solar portion; which will tie into the rest of the plan. She feels the Plan as written is a good document; some language has changed to make things clearer. She said the Planning Commission will see things one way, and the Selectboard may see it differently.

Attorney Hill handed out copies of how she would like to review the Town Plan:

**1. Structure:**

- Some structural issues
  - Needs more clarification
  - Statements laid out clearly
  - Enforceable action items and intentions
  - More substance in some areas
  - What action the Selectboard will enforce and how with timelines.
  - Some of it lacks implementation, interpretation and enforcement.
2. Kathy Barrett will work with Dave Wetmore to do some fact checking, and cite their resources.
  3. Each Selectboard member was tasked with finding another town's Town Plan, and report back to Cindy about one thing within that town plan that they thought was effective; they will make a recommendation as to where or how this can be incorporated into New Havens Town Plan.
  4. Overall the Town Plan needs to be more specific, especially to the Public Service Board guidelines. Add resources where ever they are helpful.

5. Photos are a great tool saying “do this”, “don’t do this” it backs up what you are trying to say.
6. Using quotes from surveys taken by the Planning Commission makes the Town Plan more personal with the community. Use of photos along with thoughtful quotes is also a nice way to incorporate a sense of how people are feeling in town.

#### **7. Substantive Changes:**

- Vague language that needs to be updated and enforceable in court and to the Public Service Board. The PSB likes language that is specific. Most of New Haven has scenic views, so this may have to be done road by road or a blanket statement; “the town is thick with scenic views” this can be done as an appendix, or amendment, possibly when the zoning bylaws are updated.
- Cindy Hill noted 3 studies that have been done, 2 specifically to New Haven. **1)** Vermont Scenery Classification and Analysis, prepared for the Vermont State Planning Office and the Vermont Public Service Board. **2)** The View from the Road, prepared for the Champlain Valley Greenbelt Alliance. **3)** New Haven Highway Commercial District Study, prepared by Addison County Regional Planning for the New Haven Planning Commission.
- Mentioning Addison County Fair & Field Days in the town plan because it is an icon within New Haven as well as Addison County. Attorney Hill suggests identifying and prioritizing scenic views.

#### **8. Appendices and / or substantive items to address in document:**

- Town owned lands – identify within the town plan
- Be more specific about natural areas, the PSB tends to think of outdoor recreation as a golf course; here we tend to think of deer hunting and fishing. Consider the PLACE Analysis done by UVM student, Emma Stuhl, for the Conservation Commission.
- Be more specific about Class 4 roads and the town trail.
- Energy Park – should this be suggested in the Plan. Seguins on South St and Sawyers on Sawyer Road have both shown interest in hosting a solar park. Should it be on town owned land so no one landowner gets the tax benefit? Cindy will look at what the Legislature has decided on solar parks.

- **Solar arrays:** Should the size be limited to what the previous Plan said; which is nothing over 300kW. Discussed size limits and the “what ifs” of a solar park. Siting, screening and set backs are still key issues.
- Cindy Hill gave each Selectboard member a task with deadlines to report back to her.
- Dave Pidgeon came in with concerns that the zoning map had changed along route 7 in front of his property. It has been highway commercial for many years; he wondered why in the new proposed town plan the zone has changed. He would appreciate the Selectboard looking into it.

Adjourn: 12:15 pm

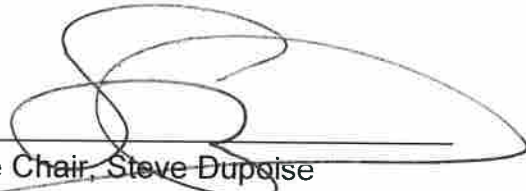
Respectfully submitted:

Pam Kingman

Approved:



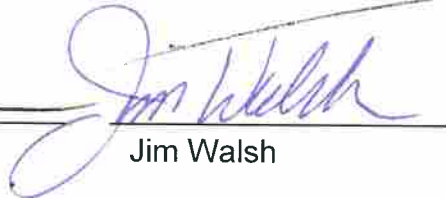
Chair, Kathy Barrett



Vice Chair, Steve Dupoise



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Doug Tolles

