

Contacts

Selectboard

Kathy Barrett: 453-4232

Steve Dupoise: 349-9233

Carole Hall: 453-5543

Doug Tolles: 545-2020

Jim Walsh: 989-9368

Town Clerk

Pam Kingman: 453-3516

Town Treasurer

Barb Torian: 453-3516

Town Shed

453-3397

Beeman Elementary

453-2331

Mt. Abe High School

453-2333

Superintendent's Office

453-3657

Community Library

Deborah Lundbech: 453-4015

Events Coordinator

Suzy Roorda: 453-5978

Fire Chief

Alan Mayer: 453-5129

377-0475 (cell)

Burn Permit: Fire Warden

Dave Heisler: 453-7286

771-7236 (cell)

Planning Commission

Rob Litch: 453-4840

Development Review Board

Tim Bouton: 453-4596

Zoning Administrator

Dave Wetmore: 453-3516

Animal Control Officer

Wayne Marcelle:

1-802-233-9534

Any non-profit group event that is open to all members of the community can be listed in the Community calendar.

Contact:

Pam Kingman: 453-3516

Suzy Roorda: 453-5978

Selectboard Report: Solar Update Town of New Haven

On Town Meeting Day, New Haven voters approved a special \$25,000 appropriation to allow your Selectboard to intervene with Vermont's Public Service Board (PSB) on the many solar electricity generating plants proposed in New Haven. Our Town Plan has a limit of 300 kW in maximum size and requires that all such facilities be appropriately sited and benefit the town. Many of the projects proposed greatly exceed that limit. Other projects are proposed to be constructed in sensitive or scenic areas of our town. In each case, the Selectboard reviews the proposed plans and determines whether to support the project or whether to intervene with the PSB.

This report is to give you an update on the number and status of those many proposals. A 150 kw facility is about an acre in size. To date, five have been constructed in New Haven. There are three more already approved and under construction. We are currently intervening on two other proposals and we have been informed that an additional one is coming our way soon. After public opposition, 2 proposed sites were withdrawn. The Public Service Board does not ordinarily allow a contested hearing process on facilities of this size. New Haven was granted the first hearing in the state on a 150kw solar facility -- one that is proposed on South Street. The hearing date has not yet been set but we are working on developing our evidence and arguments. The town is also seeking to revoke the certificate of public good -- the license to operate granted by the PSB - in another 150kw solar array on Field Days Road which has not been adequately screened in accordance with PSB requirements.

A 500 kW facility occupies 3 to 5 acres in size. These violate the limit in our town plan, and are being opposed by the Town. While there are none constructed in New Haven, three new ones have been proposed and we have voted to intervene on each. The developers of these industrial sites have clearly ignored our town plan. Another 500 kW proposal was withdrawn after it was discovered that the proposed site was wetlands. Facing opposition from the Agency of Natural Resources, the developers moved their proposal to another site in New Haven. As with the smaller 150kw projects, the Public Service Board does not often grant hearing on 500kw facilities. New Haven has also been granted one of the first hearings on a facility of this size, located adjacent to the state police barracks on Route 7. We have submitted substantial testimony and participated in an initial status hearing and site visit with the PSB, but the hearing date has not yet been set as the town has raised a number of legal issues regarding the scope of the hearing and the safety of the project's interconnection into the electric grid. We are awaiting the PSB's rulings on these issues, after which a hearing date will be set.

A 2.0 mW or 2.2 mW plant occupies approximately 20 acres. In Bridport, a 2 mW plant sits on 9 acres. It depends on which type of solar panels are being used. New Haven is facing and vigorously opposing a new 20 acre proposal off the east side of Field Days Road. We have developed testimony using volunteers

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Selectboard Report, continued

and paid consultants to demonstrate the damage that facility will do to the surrounding residential agricultural zone. The developer of that 20 acres originally sought to develop another contiguous 40 acres for a total of 60 acres of solar panels. As of right now, we are opposing the proposal for the initial 20 acres and are awaiting word on the other 40 acres.

There are also proposals for an additional 40 acres of solar on the west side of Field Days Road. If all these are constructed, that will be 60 – 100 acres of farmland out of use in just that little area.

A different project, Cross Pollination, was built on the west side of Route 7 north of the junction and has been in service for several years. We recently met with the developer to insist that the original screening and planting be implemented. If you look, you will see the original screening vegetation has died. The developer is agreeable to screening that plant correctly. We continue to monitor the progress.

Even larger are 5mW plants. We were presented with proposals for two facilities each one 40 to 50 acres in size. The Selectboard discouraged the developer from proceeding. As of now, it appears those proposals are not going forward.

Some of the additional areas of concern include overloaded power lines, little to no screening around these sites, inappropriate locations, damage to property values, and harm to wildlife.

The Selectboard reviews each of these proposals keeping in mind the total effect on New Haven. So far, at least half a dozen citizens have volunteered to be witnesses on behalf of the town. In addition to paid consultants, we have been blessed by the offering of help from residents of surrounding towns as well. This is what your \$25,000 has been directed toward. We work diligently with Town Counsel Cindy Hill to protect New Haven.

Doug Tolles

Selectboard member on behalf of the entire New Haven Selectboard

New Haven Community Library News

Thank you to everyone who supported the library by donating books to the book sale, and to others who stopped by and purchased books. And thank you to the Friends of the Library for your loyal support and continuing work to enrich the collection and library space. Speaking of which - we have some great new DVDs and audio books purchased with a recent Friends donation. Stop by and check them out!

We are honored and delighted to be hosting Deborah Felmuth on November 18th at 7pm. She is the author and photographer of an upcoming book, Syria: Remember Me. This beautiful book celebrates the strength, beauty and diversity of the Syrian people. In her own words, Felmuth “found her way to Damascus in 1991, fell in love with Syria, and her heart never left.” She and her husband, Mouawia, who is Syrian, will be at the library to inform us about Syria and its people, and to discuss the tragic war, recent upheaval, and refugee crisis. We hope

you can join us. For further information, you can check out Deborah’s website at syria-remember-me.com.

The library will close at 4pm on Wednesday, November 25 and will be closed November 26 for the holiday.

Happy Thanksgiving!
Deborah Lundbeck, Town Librarian

Friends of the Library

Thanks go to those who helped with our October Book Sale!

The next meeting of the Friends will be November 4, 7 PM, at the library. Do you have time to come to a meeting a month and help the library's Friends? You're invited. Come to our next meeting!

Norma Norland

Annual Turkey Dinner: Sunday, November 1st

Meal includes Misty Knoll turkey, all the fixings, pumpkin or apple pie, beverages,
(gluten free alternatives available)

New Haven Congregational Church

three sittings: 11:30, 12:30, 1:30

\$12 adult / 6-12 years old \$6 / under 6 free

Reservations recommended, but walk ins are welcome - Call Betsy 453-2724

Take outs available; call ahead and have it waiting

Barbara Saunders

Clerk's Report

New England Flooring has installed the new floors in the Town Hall Kitchen, cafeteria and hallways. It looks so nice and fresh. Because of time constraints, N.E. Flooring will return during a future school recess to do the restrooms and pantry. The project could not have been accomplished without the assistance of ANESU Facilities Director, Alden Harwood and Town Hall Custodian, Luke Bolduc; thank you both for your hard work.

The Town Offices will be closed on Wednesday, November 11, 2015 for Veterans Day and Wednesday, November 25 and Thursday, November 26, 2015 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

R & L Rubbish & Recycling will be at the Town Shed for collection Saturday, November 28, 2015. This is the Saturday after Thanksgiving.

Wishing all of you a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends.

Respectfully, Pam Kingman

School Board News

The New Haven School Board held its regular monthly meeting on Tuesday, October 13th. Several community members attended and contributed valuable feedback. The Board was also present at the Beeman Elementary School open house the following evening. The School Board encourages the public to participate in meetings and special engagements. There are a number of ongoing initiatives and Board work (including Act 46) which will have a major impact on our schools and our community.

The next meeting will be held on November 17th in the Mt Abe cafeteria at 7:00PM. It is one of 3 "carousel" formats scheduled for this year. All Boards will initially convene together for an ENDS monitoring report on Life and Career Skills as well as other common agenda items. Following that, each local School Board will split off for its regular monthly meeting and district-specific agenda.

Important Announcements:

On September 28th, the Addison Northeast Supervisory Union (ANESU) School Board appointed Assistant Superintendent, Catrina DiNapoli, to assume the role of Acting

Superintendent. The Board moved to immediately commence a search for an interim Superintendent.

On October 13th, the ANESU School Board authorized its Executive Committee to conclude a separation agreement with former Superintendent, David Adams, along terms that have been discussed in the full Board's recent executive sessions. Any such separation agreement will be made public in open session, voted, and then fully executed by the Executive Committee.

Community Engagement – Act 46

A special 5 town community engagement will be held in on November 9th at 7:00PM in the Starksboro Robinson School gym. The topic will be Act 46 and what it means for our schools, our students, and our communities. Area legislators, VSBO President Nicole Mace, and other special guests will be in attendance. The ANESU member districts have formed an Act 46 Study Committee and are actively seeking community input and participation in this critical process.

Respectfully submitted by the New Haven School Directors: Brad Bull (Chair), Ed McGuire (Vice Chair), Phyllis Smith (Clerk)



Armchair Naturalist

The Conservation Commission kicks off its 2015-16 “Armchair Naturalist” Speaker Series in November! No matter how long you have lived in New Haven, you can always learn something new about your natural PLACE* on the planet! In previous years, the Armchair Naturalist speakers have educated us all on topics such as bobcats, coyotes, bears and coverts. Beginning this month, the Conservation Commission invites you to attend two talks which focus on specific aspects about our PLACE here in the Town of New Haven.

Thursday, November 19th: “Across Time and Space: the Changing New Haven Landscape”

Presented by: Emma Stuhl, University of Vermont Field Naturalist

When: 7:30pm – 8:45pm

Where: New Haven Town Hall, 70 North Street, New Haven VT

From the formation of New Haven's soil to the arrowheads that farmers dug up over the years, Emma's research in New Haven this summer unearthed loads of good dirt on the natural and cultural history of the town. Join us as Emma shares an integrated story of the New Haven landscape, discussing topics ranging from how ancient rock formations connect to current-day wildlife habitat. Come learn more about New Haven and practice looking at the world through a new lens.

Tuesday, December 1st: “Tales from the New Haven River-Walker”

Presented by: Sonia DeYoung, University of Vermont Field Naturalist

When: 7:30pm – 8:45pm

Where: New Haven Town Hall, 70 North Street, New Haven VT

In July 2015, Sonia walked the length of the New Haven River from headwaters to confluence - about 25 miles. Over six days she met watershed residents of all ages and professions (maybe you met her!) They told her about their lives along the river, invited her into their homes, and opened her eyes to the many ways a river can move us. She'll share her stories from the experience and how it has influenced her graduate work at UVM and her approach to life.

* UVM's PLACE program: PLACE stands for “Place-based Analysis and Community Engagement.” When her analysis of New Haven is complete, you will be able to read about Emma Stuhl's work on UVM's PLACE website. The program focuses its efforts on analyzing and interpreting landscapes at the town level. Although many towns in Vermont share similar settlement histories and ecological patterns, each town's unique physical setting and cultural influences lead to distinctive and intriguing variations on these themes.

Mark your calendars. We hope you can join us!

Questions? Please email Dean Percival at percival@madrivervt.com

*Sponsored by: The New Haven Conservation Commission: Dean Percival (chair),
Al Karnatz, Mark Krawczyk, Ruth Penfield, Susan Smiley*

Admission is always free.

The Armchair Naturalist Speaker Series is held during the fall, winter and early spring.

Planning Commission

Thanks to all who attended our Planning Forum on Saturday October 17th. The Planning Commission was able to gather many thoughts and ideas to use in revising the current Town Plan. Topics with the highest priority were: Retaining and Supporting Agriculture, Identifying and Preserving View-sheds, Encouraging Home Based Businesses, Limiting Solar Expansion, and Good Neighbor Policies. A full recap will be available at the next Planning Commission meeting on November 9th.

Please take a few moments to complete the enclosed questionnaire. The Planning Commission would like to gather as much community input as possible. Thanks in advance.

Francie Caccavo

Bone Builders Exercise Class

Feeling a little stiff from the changing weather, or just in general? Come to Bone Builders!

We're starting classes again beginning Tuesday, November 3rd from 10:30am - 11:30am. Classes will be held every Tuesday from 10:30am - 11:30am downstairs in the meeting room of the Congregational Church on Town Hill Road across from the Town Green.

Classes are easy stretching and toning for one hour in great company. If you can lift your foot off the ground while in a chair or standing, or can make a fist, or flex or lift your arm, you're good to go! Add some light weights to that if you like, and you have an extra bonus. It's so easy and so very beneficial! Classes are ongoing with the same exercises each week. You can increase your limit as you go with no pressures or limitations. Whatever you do is up to you.

Please let me know if you would like to attend this easy, low impact, Co-Ed adult exercise class for all abilities. We have weights available for your use at class if you would like to use them. If you are joining us for the first time, please come a few minutes before class to sign in.

Walk-ins are always welcome! Hope to see you then, and feel free to bring a friend!

Suzy Roorda, Bone Builders Instructor, 453-5978



Where Was It? →

The driveway to Lincoln Peak Winery on River Road.

Correct Answers: Nobody. Sorry.

Where is it?

E-mail your answers to me at jgallott@gmavt.net, write the answer down and drop it off at the Town office, or hand it to me if you see me around town **by November 15th.**

Jim Gallott



New Haven Planning Commission Survey

The New Haven Planning Commission is charged with reviewing and proposing updates to our Town Plan every five years. The Town Plan is a comprehensive planning document that is designed to reflect the interests, opinions, and concerns of New Haven’s residents. *A Copy of the current Plan is available at the Town Office, The Library and on the town website, www.newhavenvt.com.*

The Plan helps guide your elected and appointed officials as they develop Zoning Regulations and make other decisions for the future of our Town. It also serves an important role in expressing the interests of the Town in proceedings before bodies such as the Vermont Public Service Board and the Act 250 District Commission.

In order to ensure that our Town Plan accurately reflects the views of the people of New Haven, we are seeking your input. Your answers to the following questions will help the Planning Commission incorporate your concerns and suggestions into the next draft of the Plan.

Please leave blank any questions about which you have no opinion.

1. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements:

Rate the following using a 7-point scale where 1 = Strongly agree, 4 = Neutral, and 7 = Strongly disagree

1 ☺	2	3	4 ☹	5	6	7 ☹	
							The Town Plan should NOT encourage new businesses in the town. The current level is satisfactory.
							In managing development, it is important for the Town Plan to promote employment opportunities for residents.
							The Town Plan should encourage additional Resource-based businesses (farming, forestry, etc.).
							The Town Plan should encourage new Home businesses provided they do not disturb neighbors.
							The Town Plan should encourage new Tourism-related businesses (B&Bs, restaurants, inns, etc.)
							The Town Plan should encourage new Retail businesses.
							The Town Plan should encourage new Light industry
							The Town Plan should encourage new energy generation businesses in New Haven.

2. Should New Haven expand the commercial zoning areas along Route 7, beyond that which is currently designated in the current Highway Commercial Zone? *(Please select one response.)*

_____ a. Yes _____ b. No _____ c. I'm not sure.

3. There should be limits on the size of new commercial buildings.

Rate the following using a 7-point scale where 1 = Strongly agree, 4 = Neutral, and 7 = Strongly disagree

1	2	3	4	5	6	7

4. There should be limits on the size and number of signs.

Rate the following using a 7-point scale where 1 = Strongly agree, 4 = Neutral, and 7 = Strongly disagree

1	2	3	4	5	6	7

5. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements regarding residential development:

Rate the following using a 7-point scale where 1 = Strongly agree, 4 = Neutral, and 7 = Strongly disagree

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
☺			☹			☹	
							The Town Plan should encourage construction of new homes.
							The Town Plan should consider overall housing density or areas rather than minimum lot sizes
							The Town Plan should encourage construction of affordable housing.
							The Town Plan should encourage construction of elderly housing.

6. Please indicate your support of the following energy-related projects located in New Haven:

Rate the following using a 7-point scale where 1 = Strongly support, 4 = Neutral, and 7 = Strongly do NOT support

1 ☺	2	3	4 ☹	5	6	7 ☹	
							Solar
							Wind
							Hydroelectric generation
							VELCO – electric transmission
							VT Gas – natural gas
							High capacity underground energy transmission line projects connecting to power to the VELCO infrastructure, like the proposed Anbaric project

7. Monetary compensation to the town should be considered when making decisions about energy projects proposed for New Haven.

___ yes ___ no

8. Do you currently own any of the following solar energy sources?

- ___ None of the answers below
- ___ hot water heater
- ___ rooftop electric
- ___ ground mounted solar panels
- ___ community solar member

9. What do you think should be the maximum allowable size in acreage for a new, well-sited and screened solar energy project located in New Haven?

(Few people would be able to easily see this project)

(Please select only ONE response from the seven choices below)

none	Roof top	1 acre	5 acre	10 acre	20 acre	40 acre	No limit

Other Comments:

10. Please check **ONE** of the following statements about the screening of solar projects to which you most agree:

I support all solar projects of any size that will provide me with electricity at a discounted rate on my power bill,

- a. ___ provided that the solar project is completely screened from me, my neighbors, and citizens of New Haven. (*Very few people, if any, would be able to easily see this type of project.*)
- b. ___ as long as it is moderately screened from me, my neighbors, and citizens of New Haven. (*It would be partially visible to you, your neighbors and passers-by, but not the dominant part of their view.*)
- c. ___ even if it is unscreened from me, my neighbors, and citizens of New Haven. (*It would be easily seen by me, my neighbors, and citizens of New Haven.*)
- d. ___ None of the above

12. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements regarding agricultural goals in the Town of New Haven?

Rate the following using a 7-point scale where 1 = Strongly agree, 4 = Neutral, and 7 = Strongly disagree

1 ☺	2	3	4 ☹	5	6	7 ☹	
							a. New Haven has been historically agricultural. The Town Plan should continue to support Preservation of Agriculture above all other development.
							b. The viability of small scale farming in New Haven is changing. The Town Plan should support a mix of agriculture and other economically diverse objectives.
							c. Residential development in agricultural areas, by clustering on small lots, while conserving larger areas of undeveloped land suitable for farming, is acceptable.
							d. Prime agricultural soils should be preserved exclusively for farming.

13. Do you use public transportation offered by Addison County Community Transit or other form of local public transportation?

_____ Yes _____ No

14. Should the town work to increase opportunities to access public transportation within New Haven?

_____ Yes _____ No

15. Do you have any other suggestions that would make life better for New Haven and its residents and for which we should be providing guidelines in our plan?

Please provide us with your personal information so we can verify that you are a resident of New Haven. Your information will not be attributed to you in our survey results.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Are you a registered voter in New Haven? ___ Yes ___ No

May we contact you about your responses?

Phone _____ Email _____

Would you consider serving on a town board? ___ Yes ___ No

Thank you very much for completing this survey! Please return by 11/23/15

Please return to the Town of New Haven/Planning Commission 78 North St. New Haven, VT 05472; or you can put it in the drop box out in front of the Town Offices.

email: newhavenclerk@gmavt.net Fax:802-453-7552

The Planning Commission

November 2015 New Haven Community Calendar

Location of Events Key: Town Hall= TH Town Offices= TO Town Garage= TG Cafeteria= C Gym= G Beeman= S MAUHS= HS Village Green =VG Village Green Market= VGM Congregational Church= CH Library= L Fire Station= FS * Recycling at Town Garage Saturday Mornings 8-12 *

	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Set Clocks Back! Congregational Church Annual Turkey Dinner. 453-2724 for info	2 DRB Meeting 7pm TO	3 Library Story Hour 10:30am L Bone Builders Exercise Class 10:30am CH Selectboard Mtg. 7pm TO	4 Tai Chi 4:30pm CH Library Friends Meeting 7pm L Fire Dept. Mtg. 7pm FD	5	6 K-6 No School Inservice/Parent Teacher Conferences	7 Recycle 8am-12pm TG	
8	9 Planning Commission Mtg. 7pm TO	10 Library Story Hour 10:30am L Bone Builders Exercise Class 10:30am CH	11 Veteran's Day Town Office Closed Tai Chi 4:30pm CH 4H Twilight Tails 6:30pm C Historical Society 7pm L	12	13	14 Recycle 8am-12pm TG	
15	16 DRB Meeting 7pm TO	17 Library Story Hour 10:30am L Bone Builders Exercise Class 10:30am CH Selectboard Mtg. 7pm TO	18 Tai Chi 4:30pm CH Library Armchair Traveler Deb Falmouth-"Syria" 7pm TO	19 Library Trustees 7pm L Conservation Commission Naturalist Speaker 7:30pm G	20	21 Recycle 8am-12pm TG	
22	23	24 Library Story Hour 10:30am L Bone Builders Exercise Class 10:30am CH	25 No School K-12 Town Office Closed Library Closes at 4pm Tai Chi 4:30pm CH	26 Thanksgiving No School K-12 Town Office Closed	27 No School K-12 Town Office Closed	28 Recycle 8am-12pm TG	
29	30	Bone Builders Exercise Class! Tuesdays from 10:30-11:30am at the Congregational Church on Town Hill Road. 453-5978					
Sign your son up for Cub or Boy Scouts! Contact James Bashaand at 349-3830.	Tai Chi Classes! Wednesdays until Dec 16th- from 4:30-5:30 at the Congregational Church. Contact instructor Mary Pratt at 545-2106 to sign up.	Rent the Town Hall for your own events or parties, or to teach classes. Please submit your application at least 3 weeks prior to your event to allow the Selectboard	time to review and process the application. Applications are available at the Town Office or on the Town web-site.	*if your town group or club would like its meetings or events listed in the Town Newsletter Calendar, please contact Suzy at	newhavenrec@gmail.com or cscasam@gmail.com by the 15th of the month prior to the event for publishing.	To register in any Town group or club, please call one of the phone numbers listed below. Thanks~	

Contacts: Fire Dept. 453-3654 * Town Shed 453-3397 * Beeman 453-2331 * MAUHS 453-2333 * ANESU 453-3657 * Energy Coor 453-4752 * Ladies Union 877-3080 * Library 453-4015 * Karate 453-2405 * Equine 4H 453-5219 * Dairy 4H 545-2484 * Cub Scouts 349-3830 * Boy Scouts 453-2128 * Girl Scouts 453-4735 * Soccer 545-2742 * Little League 453-2724 * Historical Soc. 989-4066 * Crime Watch 453-5978 & Police 388-4919 * Mary Johnson Children's Center 388-4304 * Boot Camp 388-6252 * Bone Builders 453-5978 * Tai Chi-545-2106 * ZUMBA 758-2482 *

Town of New Haven
78 North Street
New Haven, VT 05472
453-3516

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Recycling Saturday mornings 8-12 at Town Garage. Trash drop-off at same time for a fee.

Town Office Hours:

Monday 9:00 am – 4:30 pm
Tuesday 9:00 am – 4:30 pm
Wednesday 9:00 am – 4:30 pm
Thursday 9:00 am – 4:30 pm

Closed:

*Wed., Nov. 11th for Veterans Day
Wed. & Thurs., Nov. 25th & 26th
for Thanksgiving*

Library Hours

Tuesday 10:00 - 5:00
(10:30 Story Hour)
Wednesday 1:00 - 8:00
Thursday 1:00 - 8:00
Saturday 10:00 - 1:00

The newsletter is an open forum for reports, articles, & discussions about New Haven by town residents. Articles of 500 words or less should be courteous & concern town events, news, & issues. One article per month. Please include your name, address, & phone number. (Only your name will be published.) Submit in electronic form by the 15th of the month to jmsimmons@gmavt.net Jean Simmons

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