



# Town of Hopkinton

330 Main Street • Hopkinton, New Hampshire 03229 • [www.hopkinton-nh.gov](http://www.hopkinton-nh.gov)

Tel: 603 746-3170

Fax: 603 746-2952

## HOPKINTON PLANNING BOARD

### MINUTES JULY 10, 2012

Chairman Bruce Ellsworth opened the Hopkinton Planning Board meeting of Tuesday, July 10, 2012, beginning at 6:30 PM in Hopkinton Town Hall. Members present: Vice Chairman Timothy Britain, Ex-Officio George Langwasser, Michael Wilkey, Jane Bradstreet, and Alternate Cettie Connolly. Members absent: Bethann McCarthy, Celeste Hemingson, and Alternate Edwin Taylor.

---

- I. **Master Plan Energy Chapter Work Session** –Vanessa Goold of the Central NH Regional Planning Commission presented an overview of energy goal statements of other communities. Mrs. Goold also informed members that she and Karen Robertson had met with Town Administrator Neal Cass to discussion energy related projects and what action the Town has taken to date in improving energy efficiency at Town facilities. Mrs. Goold and Mrs. Robertson plan to meet with a representative of the School District to review the same.

In reviewing the energy goals, Mr. Wilkey questioned why the NH Climate Action Plan's goal uses the 1990 levels of greenhouse gases as a base for reduction. While there was brief discussion as to the possible reasons for using the 1990 levels there was no definitive reason given.

Mrs. Goold noted that in reviewing the goals of the various communities there was one community that had a specified percentage of reduction in greenhouse gases from that which is stated in the NH Climate Action Plan.

At this time, the Planning Board began review of the energy goals of ten (10) different communities (see attached).

Chairman Ellsworth recognized Byron Carr, a member of the audience, asking if he was present because of his interest in the Master Plan. Mr. Carr replied no, asking to present a conceptual to the Board.

II. **Conceptual Consultation**

Byron Carr addressed the Board advising that he is a member of a committee that is reviewing the need for a community center. He suggested two sites for a community center; the Contoocook Fire Station or barn at Houston Fields. He asked for the Planning Board's input as to which site would be most appropriate. He anticipates that the facility will be used by mothers for play groups and for art classes, among other things. He also noted that the name of the facility may be something related to unified arts, rather than a community center.

Mrs. Connolly expressed concern with the fact that Mr. Carr is before the Planning Board with ideas as to the location of a community center when in fact the questionnaires have not all been completed and the decision as to whether there is a need for a community center has not been determined.

Selectman Langwasser concurred; stating that the Selectmen have not received the report of the committee. He explained his understanding of the charge given to the committee which includes looking into services or activities that are not being addressed in the community. Furthermore, Mr. Langwasser stated that it is premature to suggest an alternative use for the Contoocook Fire Station when in fact the Town hasn't decided to construct a new station.

At this time, Mr. Carr stated that exploring possible locations for a community center is part of the committee's charge. He then apologized and left the meeting.

**Master Plan Energy Chapter Work Session** – The Board reconvened their work session reviewing potential goals for the Master Plan Energy Chapter. Following review, the Planning Board had approximately ten (10) potential goals. Mrs. Goold is to review the goals, combine language/goals where possible.

At the next work session, Mrs. Goold anticipates that an outline of the Energy Chapter will be available for the Board.

### **III. Adjournment.**

With no other business to come before the Board, Chairman Ellsworth declared the meeting adjourned at 7:45 PM. The next regular scheduled meeting of the Planning Board is Tuesday, August 14, 2012, at 6:30 PM in the Town Hall.

Karen L. Robertson  
Planning Director

## EXAMPLES OF ENERGY GOALS

### **New Hampshire Climate Action Plan**

#### **Goals:**

- A mid-term goal of reducing greenhouse gases to 20% below 1990 levels by the year 2025
  - A long term goal of reducing greenhouse gases to 80% below 1990 levels by the year 2050
- 

### **Plainfield, NH Master Plan - Energy Resources**

#### **Improve Municipal Systems**

Plainfield must lead by example to show residents and businesses how they can conserve energy, reduce their impact on climate change, and reduce their dependence on fossil fuel energy. It is also important for Plainfield to ensure that municipal projects reflect the life cycle costs of the building, and not just the initial capital costs of construction.

#### **Promote Conservation and Efficiency**

Efforts must be made to promote efficiency and conservation as priorities over the creation of new fuel sources. These measures are more economical, and will ensure that future fuel sources will go further to heat and power the town.

#### **Encourage Renewable and Local Energy Sources**

Many opportunities exist in Plainfield to create distributed forms of renewable energy, and to create jobs locally as this is accomplished. This will take cooperation from all sectors, but will lead to a more sustainable situation for the future.

#### **Participate in Regional Efforts**

Plainfield does not need to tackle all of this alone. As a community in a very rural region it is important that the town find ways to encourage the surrounding communities to be engaged.

---

## Temple, NH Master Plan - Energy Chapter

Lists suggested actions “as we work toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions and energy usage within our community.”

### Dover, NH - Energy Action Plan

GOALS:

- Residents, businesses and the municipal government should adopt energy conservation and efficiency measures, and pursue renewable energy developments that are in the public's best interest.
- Dover households and business should have access to diverse, reliable, affordable, and environmentally responsible energy supplies.
- Encourage smart growth principles such as mixed use, centralized development, higher density and alternative transportation to help reduce energy use.
- The City should adjust economical considerations on projects to reflect the life cycle costs of the building and not just the initial capital costs of construction.
- Monitor and evaluate the city's energy costs and usage on an annual basis.
- Electricity production, transmission and distribution infrastructures in Dover should be efficient, reliable, cost-effective, and environmentally responsible.

Include in goal #1  
of Bedford.

---

## Warner, NH Master Plan - Energy Resources Chapter

Goal ER-I: To maximize energy conservation and efficiency, and reduce Warner's overall carbon footprint in both the public and private sectors.

---

## Bedford, NH Master Plan - Energy and Utilities Chapter

Energy and Utilities Goals

- Initiate and support energy conservation, efficiency and sustainability relative to town, school district, residential and non-residential buildings, vehicle use, outdoor lighting and waste disposal ← Include language from goal #1 Dover
- Encourage energy efficiency, conservation, and sustainability in Bedford to reduce energy consumption and cost
- Establish best management practices and technologies in future construction, renovation and maintenance of public buildings and facilities

- Reach out to the community as a whole to inform and educate residents and businesses regarding energy conservation and sustainability principles
  - Ensure that an adequate communication infrastructure is developed to meet both business and residential needs
- 

## **Sandwich, NH Master Plan**

### **Vision Goals Relating to Energy**

Encourage a sustainable community, one that meets our present needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs.

Two other Vision Goals also have important connections to the "sustainable community" goal.

- Vision Goal #10 seeks to provide municipal services in a cost effective manner, including exploration of energy efficiency efforts to improve services and/or reduce overall costs.
  - Vision Goal #8 refers to provision of a balanced transportation system, including facilities for pedestrians and bicyclists.
- 

## **Keene, NH Comprehensive Master Plan - Climate Change Section**

The city and community, led by its CCP Committee, has developed processes and implemented projects to ensure that they are on track to meet their greenhouse gas emissions reduction goal of 10% below 1995 levels by 2015.

---

## **New Boston, NH Master Plan Energy Chapter**

The New Boston Planning Board has developed the following goals for energy use and reduction for the town.

1. Reduce municipal energy costs by reducing energy consumption.
2. Increase community awareness, advise and educate residents on reducing energy costs and consumption.
3. Consider ways to decrease energy expenditures, fossil fuel consumption and associated pollution.

## Lebanon, NH Master Plan Energy Chapter

Vision for energy savings:

1. To be a regional leader in energy efficiency, innovation, and fiscal responsibility.
2. To improve the energy efficiency of municipal buildings, municipal vehicles, and streetlights, and to promote similar efficiency measures for commercial and residential sectors in order to significantly reduce the overall energy use.
3. To explore renewable energy options for purchase and development such as hydro, wind, solar, geothermal, biomass, and methane, within the City's control, to reduce reliance on non-local and foreign sources of energy, and promote similar projects in the commercial sector.
4. To address energy-related employee behaviors, such as commuting, turning off lights, waste management, etc., through social marketing and incentives.
5. To involve the community in a social marketing campaign that engages citizens in reducing their energy use. Educational techniques could include: holding community forums, developing visual, easily understood illustrations of the City's energy use; and give more attention to current and recently completed municipal and commercial energy related projects.
6. To comply with the NH Climate Action Plan, which aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050.

---

## Candia, NH Master Plan Energy Chapter

1. Overall goals set forth by the NH Climate Action Plan.
2. Reduce overall energy use and greenhouse gas emissions throughout the community through increased public awareness.
3. Monitor existing energy use of public buildings/facilities and produce an Annual Energy Use Reduction Progress Report for the Board of Selectmen and SAU.
4. Encourage community participation in the formulation of energy policies.
5. Consider setting targets for reducing energy use in public buildings over the next five and ten years.
6. Promote public and private (nonresidential/residential) participation in programs to reduce energy costs, such as My Energy.net.
7. Plan for energy efficient growth and development patterns within the community (promoting Smart Growth and Energy Sustainability practices).

8. Encourage business owners and residents to install “energy star” appliances and renewable solar, wind, and wood energy efficient heating systems.
9. Consider offering property tax exemptions as provided by RSA 72:61-72 for installation of eligible renewable energy systems.

Include goal as recommended by Planning Board member Jane Bradstreet and incorporate some language from #9 above. "Periodically, review regulations and tax exemptions to allow for alternative energy.