

Roxbury Planning Commission  
August 23, 2018  
Roxbury Town Office

The meeting was called to order at 6:33pm

Present: Lucinda Sullivan, Gloria Danforth, Kate Jackson, Mike French

Mike French moved to approve minutes from June 13, July 31 and May 23

The minutes were Approved 4,0,0

Mike shared with the committee the deficits within the energy section of the current Town Plan.

His findings were:

-No mention of climate change or Irene in the current plan. Rising water downtown continues to be a major problem.

-Renewable energy resources currently in used in Roxbury are vague. How much of the town's power is renewable? Solar & wind should be included. Cost per kWh for each option? How are we incentivizing?

-A reference map of the areas served by Green Mtn Power vs Washington Electric Co-op should be included. Mike suggested we rewrite with reference to a map that is in the appendix to be used with mitigation, flood and emergency services.

- A list of conservation projects the Central Vermont Regional Plan has completed within the town should be included.

-Access to 3 phase power in Roxbury is a major factor required to encourage business in Roxbury. Should there be plans to develop 3 phase power within Roxbury?

-Should we specify what heat source municipal buildings use? For municipal buildings in town, are there grants for updating with renewable energy sources?

-We should include a pie chart for the current use of heating fuel and types within the town which Include suppliers of heating oil; who is local who is regional.

-Should we include best practices for new construction to encourage energy conservation? Include pellet stoves and solar heat options.

-Forest management section should be linked energy section in regards to firewood supply.

-Explore options for bus route/public transportation for Roxbury. We would like to develop bike lanes that were just completed. Currently no "Share the Road" signs, or painting down the bike symbol on pavement in designated bike lane.

-DSL is holding us back with telecommuting. Fiberoptics are a critical element to attracting business. Current residents wishing to telecommute are unable to do so.

-Should sidewalks in village be improved?

-Take out micro-hydro in current plan as a potential energy source? Also remove bio-mass and methane production?

-What is Roxbury's involvement in alternative energy sources? Specifics.

-Overall the energy section of the Town Plan needs more specifics, backed up with data.

-Should we develop a ride share program for the town to utilize park and ride that was built? Potential ways to do so: Statewide ride share program, FPF, Town Meeting, Town Report and Town Website. Apps for this? Are we on current ride share maps?

-Should we, as a town, put limitations on commercial power development vs residential power development? Example: A dairy farmer will make more money leasing to solar farm than milking cows.

In regards to illegal dumping and pollution, should we encourage a garbage vendor to come to town with the overall goal of increasing town support for recycling, composting and responsible disposal of garbage.

-What actions have select board taken in current Town Plan?

Lucinda Sullivan adjourned the meeting at 7:37pm.

The next planning commission meeting will be held September 13th, 6:30 pm at the Roxbury Town Office.

