

Addendum to the Pittsford Planning Commission notes 06.27.2024

This is a description of the changes discussed by the commission in the page-by-page review of the Brandon, VT Enhanced Energy Plan.

Page 3 – Introduction: The Pittsford Planning Commission will do a self-audit (review) every 4 years rather than every 2 years as described in paragraph 2. During the discussion on this point Mike said that the 2-year review was in the plan to ensure we're meeting our targets and reminded the group that Jeremy said it's non-binding. If we haven't conformed to our own plan the state will take that into consideration if the town objects to a project. After a discussion of who will do the review, the language self-audit (suggested by Donna) was agreed to by the members.

Rick mentioned getting public participation in this process.

Mark P. brought up the program regarding fuel switching and it was discussed that the state is driving this goal with timelines attached. There are significant state subsidies for EV's, heat pumps and solar fields, all for low-moderate income Vermonters. The commission didn't get to the point of reviewing this section of the plan as it begins on Page 12.

Mark W. reminded the commission that the group can set goals however they see fit and not to worry about how it's going to be funded, that's not the job of the commission.

Technology will advance so quickly that by the time we redo the plan many things will have changed.

Chuck brought up concerns that what's currently described as being non-binding may be made binding at a future date.

Before the next meeting Robb will write up a simplified introduction for the group.

Page 4 – Universal Analysis: There was some discussion on the terms equity vs. equality.

The second paragraph that begins with the words "We feel it is important..." was struck.

Our town plan will be the 2026 plan, not the 2024 town plan.

The last paragraph on page 4 contains a sentence which begins "We have hosted..." which was struck. It was suggested to add language that the Pittsford newsletter will indicate that there will be changes to the plan available online. This is appropriate as folks all have access to the internet in this area.

Page 5 – The two sentences that describe having electric bikes to borrow from the library will be struck as that's not the case in Pittsford. The first half of the next sentence regarding the free Energy Book will be retained for the time being as we would like to offer this. The second half of this sentence that describes the community solar project will be struck as will the remainder of this

paragraph. Kevin mentioned that Dave indicated he would like to install a couple of charging stations in town. Mike said they are approximately \$5K each and that grants are available. Charging stations in the village are business friendly as patrons can walk the village while charging.

Page 6 – Total Energy Analysis: Regional planning will provide this data. The Brandon plan has several graphics that describe town energy usage. Rick suggested paring off Omya so it doesn't drive up our numbers. Mark W. described it was industrial vs. residential which the members agreed with.

Page 7 – Total Energy Usage & GHG Emissions: Mike will rewrite this page, Regional will provide the data. The end of the first paragraph discusses a desired decrease in total energy consumption. There was a general discussion about what the group wants that number to be or if a number is necessary. How does the town drive down energy consumption? Pittsford solar data discussion, it's believed that we've met our goals to date. Rick suggested a survey regarding energy improvements made by residents and talked about modeled data.

Page 8 – Universal Pathways: The objectives on this page will be struck. Mark W. brought up that \$8M was added to the grand list in new construction over the last year. We have 20% capacity available on town septic if folks want to build where town septic is available. There was a discussion of the Homes Act of 2023. This may have to be in the town plan vs. the Enhanced Energy Plan.

Page 9 – Objective: First policy objective: Sponsor (strike the number 5) outreach activities...Action – Coordinate and conduct annual public outreach to encourage conservation of resources (remainder of sentence struck). Action regarding offering 1 annual weatherization: Strike.

Policy regarding proving financial incentives will stand. The action will be revised to read that the Town manager will apply for grants.....

Robb suggested moving this section to the introduction section.

Action Item: Put links on the town's website to EVT, BROCC, etc. as suggested by Mark P.

Page 10 – Objective: Action 1 (revise language to read) Participate in the MERP Program through building energy assessments.

Action 2 – Revise this sentence to start with the words “When practical implement weatherization...”

Strike Action 3 regarding all municipal buildings being built to the highest net zero standards.

Retain Action 4 regarding taking advantage of Efficiency Vermont sponsored programs.

Action 5 – Ask Jeremy about this claim of Producing 100% of town government electric demand...

Retain Action 6 regarding the potential purchasing of EV's for the police department.

Retain action 7 regarding the creation of a telecommuting policy.

Action 8 – Revise to “Investigate conversion of town lawncare...”

Action 9 – It was suggested that we consult with Jeremy on this action as the goal is to reduce emissions.

Action 10 – Revise to “Every four years the commission will publish a report card...”