Voltage Controlled Oscillator

By feeding back some signal to the input, we get oscillation since the tank circuit continues to run.

If replace the capacitor with a varactor diode, can control capacitance with a DC voltage on the diode. This allows us to control the oscillator frequency with DC voltage changes.

Phase Detector

If put in a signal into the phase detector whose phase differs from the input signal (same frequencies but different in phase), the phase detector will detect this.

As 1 MHz comes in, as long as the two phases are the same (input and feedback), the phase detector will output 0 volts. Once the phase differs between input and feedback, the detector generates a small voltage which causes the VCO to adjust the capacitance so that it will adjust the phase.

Phase Locked Loop

This is the 4046 chip we are putting in our circuits.

The PLL is made up of:

- phase detector
- filter input and output ports
- VCO (voltage controlled oscillator)

The filter is external to the chip since manufacturer doesn't know what frequency at which the customer will use the PLL.