

JEFFERSON COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

February 2, 2006

The first meeting of the Jefferson Comprehensive Plan Committee was scheduled for 4:30 PM. Members present from the community were: Margie Hait, Diane Fischer, Bill Parker, Greg Sheehan, and Dan Singletary. Also present were: Shane Nickle, Schoharie County Planning Board; Tom Shepstone, Shepstone Associates; and Dick Kuhn, Jefferson Town Supervisor. Members not in attendance were John Treadwell and Linda Vroman. Since 5 of the 7 members were present, the meeting was officially called to order at 4:35 PM.

The first order of business was to select a chairman. Diane nominated Dan, seconded by Margie and unanimously passed. Diane was selected secretary. A motion was made by Gregg, seconded by Bill and unanimously passed to use Robert's Rules of Order as the standard for the meetings.

Meeting dates were set for the third Tuesday of the month. Meetings currently scheduled are as follows: March 21st, April 18th, May 16th, June 20th, July 18th and August 15th. They will begin at 7 PM in Town Hall.

Dan gave some background on the committee. The Town Board appointed the committee members. At the last regular Town Board meeting of 2005, the committee members selected Tom Shepstone's company to prepare the comprehensive plan (CP). We received a grant that will provide funds for his consultant fee, any filing fees, mailings, postage, etc.

The purpose of the CP is to provide a document to be the foundation of land use within the Town. The survey is a benchmark of data on the town. As such, it will be a policy guide for future amendments or model laws.

Schoharie County's role is supportive. They will help with GIS to combine mapping via parcels. They will also assist with the community survey.

Between now and the March meeting, all members were asked to review Gilboa's questionnaire and think about how we would like to customize it to meet Jefferson's needs.

Issues we will be facing include: sub-division, junkyard laws, town water, town roads, zoning and noise. Town road issues would be street encroachment, highway use occupancy permits, health and safety, standards on driveways, culverts and storm water planning. We will also have to incorporate NYC Watershed and Susquanna Watershed mandatory regulations. Additional concerns include uncontrolled subdivision, cell towers, encourage mini-farms (right to farm law), and windmills (commercial and

private). Things of concern with windmills are appearance, ice formation with high-speed release, height, sound/noise and environmental aspects. It should be noted that NYS supports alternative energy.

There are various types of surveys we can utilize – random, all landowners and/or registered voters. This is something we have to decide. Due to the size of our town random might cause ill will from those who do not get the survey. We would also like to come up with an incentive for people to participate.

The committee members with e-mail are as follows: dickk162@aol.com, ladydi11@localnet.com, dansingle@aol.com, shanenickle@co.schoharie.ny.us, jefferson@pronet.net, smc@shepstone.net We will also be able to keep on top of what is happening at Tom's web page: www.shepstone.net/jefferson.

A motion to adjourn was made by Bill, seconded by Gregg at 5:45 PM.