

## Joint Town/Village Public Hearing

Amendments to Comprehensive Plan

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Minutes of the Joint Town/Village Public Hearing regarding the proposed amendments to Comprehensive Plan held on the above date beginning at 4:00 pm in the meeting room of the North Elba Town Hall, 2693 Main Street, Lake Placid, New York.

**North Elba Board Members Present:** Supervisor Politi, Councilman Miller, Councilman Doty, Councilman Rand, and Laurie C. Dudley

**Lake Placid Village Trustees Present:** Mayor Randall, Trustee Devlin, Trustee Monroe, Trustee Holderied and Trustee Leon, Ellen Clark

**Members Absent:** Councilman Favro

**Others Present:** Dean Dietrich, Attorney Tim Smith, Pat Gallagher, Georgia Jones, John Hopkinson, Connie Cross, Garry Hoffman, Matt Turner, Jim Shea, Paul Reiss, Margaret Murphy, Brendan May, Tim Robinson, Peggy Mousaw, Karen Mergenthaler, Chuck Finley, Greg Dennin, John Eldridge, Wayne Johnson, Linda Friedlander, Mike McGlynn, and Caroline Delany, Diane Fish, Julie Ball

Supervisor Politi – As a prelude to the Public Hearing announcement, I ask our Community Development Board Chairmen, Dean Dietrich, to do a short presentation with regard to the Comprehensive Plan. After that, The Mayor and I will open the meeting up for a Public Hearing on behalf of the Town and the Village.

Dean Dietrich – I don't want to go into the details of the Comprehensive Plan because it is a 60+ page document and every page has a number of specific implementation measures. The Community Development Board thought we could go over the process that we went through. I presented to the Board a chart which shows what happened. Community Development Board was created January 1, 2011 as part of the new Land Use Code. We met to decide what our goals were and what we wanted to do. We then said how are we going to do that, what is the process, and how are we going to get funding by way of grants. That took us to September 2011 which is when we had our first public forum. There were 40 people there who created a common vision of Lake Placid/ North Elba which can use as our basis of our Comprehensive plan. There were about 86 people involved on the committee or on the subcommittees. There were several different subcommittees who presented a draft. We tried to mirror the structure of the old Comprehensive Plan which meant we met state requirements and grant requirements. It had seven subsections so we continued with the seven subsections. We did get a grant and got Elan Planning from Saratoga Springs who came on board. The subcommittee draft reports were reviewed by everybody. We made changes and sent them back to the subcommittees. The final subcommittee reports came back on January 2013 at which point the consultant and the Community Development Board met again to review them and wrote the narrative. We used that to create an internal review draft which was months of grammar checks and getting it to say just what we wanted it to say. The document was written by lay people which are an advantage and a disadvantage due to the terminology. We then had a public information draft for the public information hearing in July 2013. It was a great process that 35 people came to. We got a few extra good comments from them. We are required by law to submit that document to Essex County Planning which we did in November 2013. We are also required by our grant to submit is to the APA and The NYS Dept of State. Now here we are

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at the Public Hearing. A couple of things that happened since then, one thing we could not do, is take out an ad in the paper with all the different parts. It is nice that the Daily Enterprise and the Lake Placid News have published all the goals and objectives. I'm sure that will also have a group of people who are seeing the document in a little more detail although it was still a summary because a lot of the implementation measures were not there. It was much better than what we could have done in terms of PR. We are hoping the Town of North Elba Board and the Lake Placid Village Board will adopt this comprehensive plan. After the public session, we are ready to move on to discuss with you the implementation part of the plan. Finally, there were two other parallel projects going on; the committee spent a lot of time with the 3-4 attempts to get a grant and then I thank Peggy and Cathy. We spent a lot of time getting that money. The bottom line, it doesn't cost you a cent. We had to have a matching in-kind of \$57,000 worth of volunteer hours. We were able to match it very easily. I have to give a shout out to the Olympic Training Facility for taking care of the Cornell people, Denny Allen at the Olympic Center offered a meeting room space, the Village let us use the Beach House, ROOST allowed us to use their website. The other parallel thing that was going on is that we hooked up with Cornell Cooperative Extension has given us reports from their Graduate students from their school of public affairs regarding vacation rentals, vegetation, GIS mapping, ordinances, and business improvement districts. We have gotten a lot of outside resource from that. That is what brought us here. You wanted 10 minutes and I thought I did pretty ok. It was a brief overview.

Supervisor Politi – We appreciate everything your committee has done and what you do for the community. I thank you.

Supervisor Politi called the Public Hearing to order on behalf of the Town Board and Mayor Randall on behalf of the Village Board. Supervisor Politi asked Laurie Dudley to read the following notice that was properly publish and posted:

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that the Village Board of the Village of Lake Placid and the Town Board of the Town of North Elba, will hold a joint public hearing pursuant to Village Law Section 7-722 and Town Law Section 272-a, on Tuesday, April 8, 2014 at 4:00 p.m. in the Town Hall, First Floor Meeting Room, 2693 Main Street, Lake Placid, New York, regarding certain proposed amendments to the Village of Lake Placid/Town of North Elba Comprehensive Plan.

The proposed amendments are set forth in a document entitled "Village of Lake Placid/Town of North Elba Comprehensive Plan Update, February 2014, Draft", a copy of which is available for inspection in the offices of the Village Clerk and Town Clerk, and will also be posted on the Lake Placid CVB/ROOST website ([www.roostadk.com](http://www.roostadk.com)).

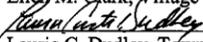
The proposed amendments relate to the following subject matter areas:

1. Government Structure and Function.
2. Economy and Tourism.
3. Community Facilities and Services.
4. Mobility.
5. Environment and Natural Resources.
6. Housing.
7. Land Use and Design.

For each subject matter area, there is a vision statement, followed by goals, objectives and implementation measures.

All interested persons are invited to attend the hearing and will be given an opportunity to be heard.

  
Ellen M. Clark, Village Clerk

  
Laurie C. Dudley, Town Clerk

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Supervisor Politi – Before I open this meeting for public discussion there are a couple of things I want you to know. First, this is a draft document and I think that the key words that I have noted are that these are proposed amendments. There has not been a discussion of the proposals by individual Board members. Some of the objectives and recommendations noted in the Comprehensive Plan Update have only been seen for the first time by members of the Town Board and I would guess maybe the Village Board also. I want to tell you we are here for discussion purposes. As a Public Hearing we would like to hear feedback from you as to those objectives. Hopefully those of you that are here have reviewed same. At this time I would ask for public comment.

John Eldridge - This is a great community that we live in. As I drive around through the Adirondack Park, I come home to Lake Placid and the Town of North Elba. I feel a sense of community pride. I know the Comprehensive Plan in the past helps in the process of looking forward. I have an idea for the Town and Village to consider. I have heard about it in other communities. Jim Morganson would say that 90% of whatever we do is education. I think if somebody comes new to the Town or has a new idea to build a subdivision that we have a short video to show that person what our town is all about and how we have fabricated Rite Aid and other projects in our community. It gives them a sense of ownership in whatever they are doing. It is the façade that we see as we drive around which is very important to how our community looks. The new Conference Center is another example that flows nicely with the community. Education and as detail are important. Consider it.

Dr. Paul Rice – I want to commend the people who worked on this of which I have joined the area of ‘Housing’. Specifically want to encourage the adoption and movement on the area having to do with the goals providing the housing needs of an increased senior population and to increase the availability of subsidized independent housing for seniors. The need is increasing. Lake Placid has had a high proportion of seniors in its population. Not like Florida where people go to retire. The younger left leaving the older people behind. We are getting more numbers because Lake Placid is a good place to retire. With the climate change coming, Lake Placid will be an even more desirable place to retire. I encourage the implementation in that area because senior don’t have another 20-30 years to wait for the housing needs.

Supervisor Politi – We appreciate your comments and everything you do with Mercy Care and helping the senior.

Greg Dennin – I was involved with a committee that did a report in full. I read through the summaries and the notion of consolidation jumped out. I am vocal with a lot of you in those terms as far as efficiency. In reviewing this, there was a concept that Mike McGlynn was involved with a long time ago. Good things came out of it but unfortunately a lot of things don’t happen. As a lot of you know, because you have two Boards you have inefficiencies and self preservation. No matter how wonderful these concepts are, without having that efficiency you are going to have obstacles. It makes so much sense to be working with one Board as far as an economic perspective as far as saving money and caring things though. It seems to be a resounding theme throughout. A classic example is the back and forth for the beach; who owns the beach, the Town is saying one thing and the Village is saying another. So many of us fall into the category of living outside the Village and technically we are not from Lake Placid. We

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live in the Town of North Elba. In many ways I feel disenfranchised from the sense of community because I live outside and don't have a say in those matters. Quite frankly, it is up to the Village to decide where it goes. I implore you to take that notion seriously wherever it may go. Absent of doing that, no matter how wonderful these goals are and good people have spent a lot of time, it would be a shame to have it go nowhere because there are two Boards.

Supervisor Politi – I appreciate your comments, Greg. In my review of this document, I never came across that proposal which I thought was extremely interesting. It was never raised. It was danced around but it was never said. That is the very first thing that I noticed. Dean, I don't know what the thinking was but I never saw that particular objective nor did I see anything dealing directly with that. Indirectly, yes.

Dean Dietrich – We based a lot of that on the 2008 CGR (*Center for Government Research*) study. One of the questions that we had was disillusionment. I agree with Greg that things happen and things don't happen. I look at the Comprehensive Plan as good ideas. Some of them are not going to happen because you don't have the resources and you don't have the political will. I don't think our committee felt that the political will was there to dissolve. The CGR report said the same thing but they also said there are areas that you may move together. You might want to share a City Manager, the Highway Departments, Courts, Police and Fire Districts. Those are things that could be shared. In 2008 CGR said that Lake Placid and North Elba is way ahead of the rest of the State for sharing services. What I took out of their executive summary was that most of the savings now are going to be efficiencies in decision making, not necessarily cost efficiency. You have already taken care of that. You said we danced around it, but we stuck with the CGR review.

Supervisor Politi – I assumed you started from the basis of the CGR report and I knew you were going to say that. I wanted you to say it for the record.

Trustee Leon – It's not necessarily a political will in regards to the two Boards. It has to come from the community as well. Governor Cuomo pushed that as far as making dissolution easier. There doesn't seem to be an overwhelming or increasing desire from the community for that to happen yet.

Dean Dietrich – I talked to Greg about it. I think everybody is in favor of consolidation but when you get to actual dissolution my sense is that the public support drops.

Trustee Leon – We have no control over it.

Supervisor Politi – The Village Board has all the control.

Trustee Leon – The voters of the Village do. The Board does not.

Dean Dietrich – You should look at the Comprehensive Plan as a list of ideas. It is comprehensive in that it includes government, non-government, business communities; NGO's and non-profit organization. It is comprehensive in that it asks all those entities to move forward in the same manner with the same goals in mind. It's not exhaustive; there are plenty of room for ideas like John's that comes up. I have received two comments via email that I will hand out for the record. If you adopt the

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Comprehensive Plan there is nothing to preclude the governing body that is studying Police and Fire Districts want to work on dissolution which may come out of that particular process. I hope that answers your question.

Trustee Leon – I want to make a comment to say that maybe it is not necessarily the political will of the two boards interfering with the ability for the municipalities to combine. It is a different process.

Dean Dietrich – The way to measure political will is to have a referendum.

Supervisor Politi – We have had three over the years and it has been struck down. That doesn't mean that it wouldn't change.

Greg Dennin – It was not three. It's been two twenty to thirty years ago. The Village does have that authority to present it to the voters. It has been a long time but because it was tried before is not a reason to discount it.

Supervisor Politi – I agree, Greg.

Greg Dennin – I am not naive on this. I know the political will. It is a tough obstacle. Without addressing that, you are fooling yourselves in trying to take on these really neat but big challenges.

Trustee Leon – I have to agree in the sense that communication in a two Boards and there is some confusion that the conversation can be convoluted as far as being able to obtain an answer to a question between the two municipalities.

Greg Dennin – You are seeing it now and the State wants it to happen. If it doesn't happen there are so many obvious things like the Court system. Why do we need two? I hope you can take positive things out of this and where efficiencies can be had you are pursuing them. If not, I would hate to think that it is for self preservation.

Trustee Leon – I hate to prolong this; my perspective the two Boards, we have this overwhelming desire for smaller government and let the community be a big factor in running the Village and the Town. There is some sort of change that would have to come from the community itself to push that issue forward.

Supervisor Politi – It's going to come in the form of a vote. But it can't come in the form of a vote until the dissolution question is raised by the Village Board not by the people.

Trustee Leon – I know I would be all ears for those interested in asking.

Garry Hoffman - I would like to talk about Government Structure and Function, Objective 3 (pg 11). I wanted to know what kind of work had been done regarding the Lake Placid Police Department and the Sheriff's Department. What kind of sources did you use to come up with these ideas? Has there also been a disaster preparedness plan for the Fire Department. What sources did you use?

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Dean Dietrich – In terms of changing the court structure, it has been done in two communities, Moriah and Saranac Village dissolved their court. I know we have a load of cases coming in on a week from Monday. My other position is a Judge so I have been in contact with the Office of Court Administration. There was some that came out of the CGR Study. It is something we should look at. If you move the Town Police jurisdiction outward it has a bigger base to pay for the Village Police Department and the Town would be getting services that they would not otherwise get. That means cost sharing somewhere too. We haven't gotten into the detail but we do know that it's feasible. Again it is a consolidation item that may be a goal worthy to move forward. The Town may decide that it does not have the political will to take on the extra expense. There will be a savings in reducing the number of Judges as well as efficiencies in the District Attorney's Office.

Garry Hoffman – What about as far as the police and the sheriff's department?

Dean Dietrich – We did look into it. There are different ways for it to be done. Again there are no specifics but there are a number of ways to do that. Sometimes the jurisdictional lines can be swallowed up by the Sheriff's Department. That is about as far as we got. We get into the details when the Comprehensive Plan is adopted. We are hoping to develop a committee this summer to look at the details and present the options to the Town and Village Boards.

Garry Hoffman - I guess what I really want to know is where you got the materials for this.

Dean Dietrich – The CGR study and the Office of Court Administration.

Supervisor Politi – Garry, this is just a concept. There would have to be a lot of consideration. Essex County has not weighed in on it. There are real issues in Essex County with regard to the sheriff's Department, there are Union issues. This is just an idea for consideration.

Discussion continued between Garry Hoffman, Supervisor Politi and Dean Dietrich regarding the Village of Saranac Lake Court dissolving and the number of additional case loads the Town Court will see. There will be 60 extra cases for Judge Dietrich's Court alone.

Linda Friedlander – I live outside the Village, which I think is not right. A man wandered into my daughter's house at 2 am and she called the Village Police who said she wasn't in their jurisdiction and she would have to call the State Police. She shooed him out of the house and he headed down the road to where my other daughter lives with her two children. She called her sister telling her to lock all her doors because there is a guy out there. She called the Village Police because the guy was wandering and this guy is going to get shot by somebody. Northwood School is closer to the Police Department than any other part of the Village. I think it is very important that we expand our Police Department to the Town of North Elba because of the emergency situations that happen. It's dangerous this way.

Diane Fish – There is a lot of great stuff in the plan. I thank you for everybody who worked so hard on it. I would like to see the Town and Village work with ORDA too to make some of the projects move forward. To emphasize some of the messages about walk able pedestrian friendly and bicycle friendly and recycling and the anaerobic digester plan. We need to take advantage of the fact that we live in a

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beautiful place. Whatever we can do to inform visitors and residents? Some of those projects are not big money projects.

Matt Turner – I want to know how the two Boards are going to move forward and work together and try to achieve some of these goals. Is there anything concrete setup?

Supervisor Politi – I don't want to speak for the Mayor but I don't think that members of my Board have had the opportunity to discuss each and every objective in this Comprehensive Plan. At some point after Spring Break we will get together to discuss it and perhaps get together with the Village Board again as we have always done in the past on issues that affect both the Town and the Village and decide on things that make sense and those that are just wishful thinking. Ultimately come to some kind of conclusion on decisions and modifications that should be made and move them into law.

Mayor Randall – Speaking for the Village Board, we are in the same position at this point. This Public Hearing is important to us. We need to hear the comments from the community. I was thrilled the coverage that our local media gave to the plan. People who worked on it are here. I feel strongly that our next step will be working sessions and discussions. At some point the two Boards will come together and work out our respective interest to move forward. In the early beginning of this plan when it was developing, one or two of the chair people of the Development Board came to me and spent considerable time looking at the old plan. The question was, 'Mayor, how much have we accomplished of the old plan and for those we haven't accomplished why haven't we accomplished?' It was one of the most valuable afternoons I spent in terms of understanding the dynamics of a long range strategic plan for the Village, which is what this really is. What percentage of the old plan have we accomplished in the last 17 years? One particular objective was the elimination of over head electric lines. I can tell you that the subject comes up and it has made considerable progress in 17 years. I don't know if it will ever be finished but if it weren't for that objective we might not be doing any of it. Those types of issues we are talking about the quality of life in our community recognizing the changes that occur. The objective of having an updated plan addresses the changes needed for the community and that hasn't been done for a good number of years.

Matt Turner – That is what I was getting at. So many people came together that I don't want to see that happen again.

Mayor Randall – I don't want to speak for Dean or the Community Development Board but the reason the concept is being proposed in the setting is because that is a way of continuing to refresh both the Comprehensive Plan and to become a community resource in terms of accomplishing the work. There is a lot of work in that plan.

Supervisor Politi – We always saw this as a growing Comprehensive Plan. It is always in the growth stage. It takes time to update things because a lot of times you are looking for grants which we were able to get for some of this work. The process should never stop. It has to be continually changing and continually being modified. Communities change every day. I think every one of us looks at this particular plan in that regard.

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Mike McGlynn – One thing you need to put in place is a mechanism to enable the process to start. Part of that is painting a picture. People have a hard time reading this and conceptualizing what that looks like. Remember the survey we did in the mid 1980's. The sidewalk was not completed around Mirror Lake and it turned into a good local and visitor neat thing to do. Once things come up that you both agree on then try to paint a picture of that so people can get behind. There is a PR part of that. Getting the community behind it is a common sense thing that you need to sell it.

Supervisor Politi – I agree. At some point we are going to have together with Dean. Some of the objectives make sense and some we are already doing that the committees might not be aware of. Again, it is a work in progress and it has to get done. There are so many volunteers working on this that I don't think any of us are going to walk away.

Dean Dietrich – The implementation phase is an interesting phase. I don't think everything in this plan is going to be accomplished. What we are asking you tonight is to adopt the plan and say the goal looks pretty descent. The second part of this meeting deals with the continuation of the Community Development Board as an entity resource to help implement those goals. We have done a couple of things already. One goal was a historic walk down Main Street which we did. There are some things we can't do. For example, this room should be setup better for presentations. Everybody should be able to see all the documents on the wall someplace so that everything is transparent and streamed over the internet. There are certain thing the Board has to do that the board of volunteers can help put into play. In the meantime I want to make sure you know we are asking for the continuation of the Community Development Board so we can continue to work with the community.

Carolyn Delany – Is there ever talk about those crazy lines with North Elba into Saranac Lake? Even with the election the lines are crazy and neighbors can't vote. Is there any talk about changing the lines? I was an Essex County nurse and I and to go all the way to Bloomingdale.

Supervisor Politi – There has been talk for about 100 years! It doesn't have support from Essex County and doesn't have support from the Senator. It makes a lot of sense but I don't see it happening.

Carolyn Delany – Those in Saranac Lake don't want their taxes to come here.

Supervisor Politi – I'm not sure if that is true. The taxes in North Elba are a lot less than the taxes in Harrietstown. You have County line problems and Town line problems. I don't know if they had a party when they were doing it or what. Unfortunately, there is a lot of money at stake. It is an issue that not only effect North Elba but every town in Essex County.

Carolyn Delany – I am in agreement that some Village things should be changed for the police, the beach, and other rec. things and spread out the taxpayers money so that the people in the Village don't have such a burden compared to the people that live a block away. It used to be that the police still came because they were their neighbors. They would say, we shouldn't come but we will.

Supervisor Politi – The police will certainly be a controversial topic going forward. It's a big expense.

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Peggy Mousaw – I'm the Village Treasurer. I would like to take a minute to thank Dean for spearheading the committee and actually participating in the grant. You don't realize how many volunteer hours went into putting this together until you start that \$56,000 in-kind match and dividing it by \$12 per hour. That is a massive amount of volunteer hours. Dean I would like to thank you for spearheading this.

(Everyone clapped for Dean Dietrich!)

Supervisor Politi – Actually, we compensate him more than fairly as a Judge. I don't know where there are more volunteer hours!

Peggy Mousaw – Roby, Can I finish? I want you to know that when the Town does their Budget and the Village does our Budget we actually meet. Cathy Briggs and myself meet to see where we can share services to save money. Some of the things you brought up we actually discussed but we run into State laws. Sometime to do things there is only a small window to do that in. Until the State changes their laws, some of the items that we all might be agreeable to we are limited because of what the State allows us to do. I would like you to know that we do look at that every year.

Connie Cross – I would like to take this time, which is probably inappropriate, to let people know that the Town and the Village Boards work together all the time to support the community. They have done it for me. I go in whining about something constantly and they have been just great. I would like to thank you all for that.

Georgia Jones – I would like to bring up two things; when you get together to discuss the various points I hope you will come to Dean and utilize the expertise of the people who were responsible for the segment that you are discussing at the time. It was a deliberative process that came about.

Supervisor Politi – I think that makes sense. I don't think it will be done any other way. We might want to talk about it amongst ourselves but at some point absolutely. There may be situations where I would ask Dean how he came across this particular objective. I think the Mayor would agree.

Georgia Jones – My other request is that you extend the Public Hearing process for a given period of time so that you all have a chance to read it. Maybe extend it ten more days.

Mayor Randall and Supervisor Politi agreed that they see no problem with extending the Public Hearing a few more days. Supervisor Politi received the following letters from Leslie Trevor and Dean Dietrich received the following from Naj Wikoff. (*Letters attached*)

Trustee Leon – Was this draft available to the public though the website. Everyone did have an opportunity to read it if they so choose or at least knew where to obtain a copy of it.

Dr Paul Rice – There is something with the plan, it isn't stated as such, all of the various objectives have implementation. It is what needs to be done in order to achieve the objective. What is missing is the "who is going to do it". It is unclear pretty much throughout. That is something that needs to happen if we are going to be serious about it.

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Supervisor Politi – I agree. That is part of the ambiguity that I noticed. There are a lot of things that make sense but how do we do it. Those will require additional discussions. Dean's not going to lay down. On behalf of the Town and the Mayor can on behalf of the Village keep the Public Hearing open until May 1, 2014 for public comment. It also gives people time to review it. I'm not trying to rush into anything. There are things my Board would like to discuss. Dean, what were your intentions for today?

Dean Dietrich – Whether or not you adopt the Comprehensive Plan isn't as important as getting the "who" involved. This could be a good time to pass the *SEQR* and the environmental stuff so it becomes easier next time around. When I gave the information to the Boards, I suggested we move forward with something called the Development Commission which is basically or committee moving forward. The Development Commission would be the group that would talk to you about the things in the Plan that Boards have to do, which one make sense to you and which ones don't. The Development Commission would be the ones that would go to Rotary, which we did, to suggest where the bicycle racks will fit into our Mobility Plan. It is more important to me to have the Commission intact. I sent you some by-laws and a list of people who are willing to serve. I don't want you to pass anything you are not comfortable with.

Supervisor Politi – We can't pass anything here at this meeting. This Public Hearing was called for the purpose of hearing from the public and for no other reason. It would have to be an item on the agenda as part of the Public Hearing and it wasn't. I'll have to have it on the agenda from my Town Board which I can do later this evening in terms of a Resolution of Continuation by the members of the Community Development Board.

Dean Dietrich – My memo suggested this be the appropriate time to talk about it. Do you want to close the Public Hearing and we can discuss it.

Discussion continued regarding the importance to get together with Dean Dietrich to discuss particular issues in the Community Development Plan. The Boards will discuss it individually and then get together at a later date.

Julie Ball – You do have liaisons who are supposed to be coming to our meetings. I know the Village sends a liaison but it might be helpful so it's not a big surprise.

Karen Mergenthaler – This is Phase I and helps to identify and clarify. It took a long time to get to this plan. The next Phase will be the groups of volunteers that will be discussing how to implement each of the implementations. That is why we didn't have that in place yet.

Supervisor Politi – That is the way we looked at it. Is there anyone else who would like to speak now? You do have until May 1<sup>st</sup>.

Trustee Leon – I think everyone knows, and I am speaking for the entire Board, we know we are here to serve you but it takes you who have done the work to continue moving this thing along. The more you move it along the more responsive you will often find elected officials being.

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Supervisor Politi – We certainly want the community to get better and better. We've had some wonderful projects and grants. The Biodigester is a great community opportunity. We have gotten a number of joint grants to make Lake Placid better. Again, this is a work in progress. It is not a perfect system. These volunteers and this type of program only make things better. It may take a while but it gets better all the time. Lake Placid is like very few other places. The Governor says to the Mayor and myself that we gave the best gig in the entire world. These guys would rather be the Mayor or the Supervisor living in Lake Placid because how special this community is. The reason it is special is because people take an interest. We have so many volunteers. We just sit up here but it is the volunteers that make a difference. Connie, Dean and all of you who contribute so much time is what makes this place so special. Even though we are here to talk about consolidation of services, from a statewide level, Lake Placid is considered one of the premier places in terms of consolidated efforts and services. We want to continue that. We appreciate your time and appreciate you coming today.

Connie Cross – What I am hearing from these people is that they don't feel that they are getting the support from you individually. They want one of you to represent from the Board to be there to hear them. I think that is important. These people have spent their time and effort. Get to their meetings. I don't think that has happened.

Mayor Randall – Art has been our designated point person and has been to meetings.

Garry Hoffman – I neglected earlier when I spoke to applaud Dean and everybody who worked on it. It speaks a lot of what the community would benefit from. I would like to also applaud the Boards for being so open about them working on public policies.

Supervisor Politi agreed that Dean Dietrich has spent years working on this and has a lot of dedicated peoples involved.

Dean Dietrich – I sent some suggested Community Development Board By-Laws and committee members. The vision of that board is that it is a steering committee because who does it is important. The Development Board will look at the implementation and determine what group would be good to implement that particular measure for example a GIS initiative. We see the Board working that way. We are anxious to get that running in the spring to start in the summer. The Community Development Board will consist of 7-10 members. The by-laws will make us an officially sanctioned commission so we can apply for grants.

Supervisor Politi – Councilor Smith, I think it would be a good idea for you to review those by-laws before I approve them tonight.

Trustee Leon – Do we have the Comprehensive Plan on our website?

The Comprehensive Plan is on the ROOST website however both Boards thought a link to that site from the Town and Village sites would be beneficial.

Pat Gallagher – Can we look for dates that we may have approval of the Plan?

**Joint Town/Village Public Hearing**

Amendments to Comprehensive Plan

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Supervisor Politi – That is a hard thing to ask. We are looking at two to three months. We have to talk among ourselves and get together with Dean and discuss potential modifications or changes. I don't think acting fast is necessarily the solution. I want to make sure it is done right.

Dean Dietrich – Our group is going to continue to meet.

There being no further public comment the Joint Village/Town Boards adjourned the Public Hearing at 5:08 pm. The Public Hearing will stay open until May 1, 2014 for public comments.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie Curtis Dudley  
North Elba Town Clerk