TOWN OF WILTON

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Susan E. Baldwin, Town Clerk sbaldwin@townofwilton.com

Public Hearing:

Comprehensive Land Use Plan and GEIS

The following Notice of Public Hearing was advertised in the Daily Gazette, The Post Star and the Saratogian newspapers.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Town Board of the Town of Wilton, New York, County of Saratoga, will hold a public hearing for the review of the Draft 2015 Comprehensive Land Use Plan Update, prepared by the Comprehensive Plan Committee, which also serves as a Draft Generic Environmental Impact Statement (GEIS) under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA).

SAID PUBLIC HEARING will be held on Thursday, September 3, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Wilton Town Hall located on 22 Traver Road, Wilton, New York 12831, at which time all persons will be given an opportunity to be heard.

A copy of the draft 2015 Comprehensive Plan Update is available at Wilton Town Hall, 22 Traver Road, Wilton, New York 128131 and on the website, www.townofwilton.com, for review and mandatory public comment period.

BY RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN BOARD OF THE TOWN OF WILTON

At 7:00 p.m., **Supervisor Johnson** called the public hearing to order.

Supervisor Johnson asked if there were any questions or comments.

Nancy Gatland of 28 Timbira Drive said she wanted to commend the committee who worked on the draft. It must have taken a long time because it took a long time to read it. She said she wasn't here to rail against development, Wilton needs to progress. Development and progress go hand in hand but said she feels very strongly about some of the development that is going on in Wilton. About three years ago some of the zoning laws were changed and weakened. The town board said it was just some housekeeping and tweaking. That led to the monstrosity that it being built on Route 9, north of Northern Pines Road, the Wellness Center that was built across from the Maple Avenue School and that is just a couple of examples. Mrs. Gatland said she had a houseguest this week and as we went up Northern Pines road, she looked at the apartment building and she said "why are they building a prison here". That's how it looks to people. She said as she read through the Comprehensive Plan there were words and phrases such as architectural and developmental standards, aesthetically pleasing

commercial design, protect scenic vistas, development of a scale and design that is appropriate, protection of open spaces, attractive streetscape and beautification plan and avoid fragmentation of wetlands. Does constructing enormous buildings out to the sidewalk achieve this? Do we want our section of Route 9 to look like Route 9 in Malta. What about vistas? That beautiful ridge on Route 9 will be blazing in beautiful color in another month. It is now partially blocked by that apartment building. The Comprehensive Plan states that there should be architectural review to address visual aspects of the structure as it relates to the surrounding and vision of the area. Lastly, a public hearing is being held. Will the town board pay attention to the residents of Wilton? Will you listen to us? Unfortunately, in the last few years we haven't seen a whole lot of this. It was mentioned in the Comprehensive Plan of the possibility of having a Wilton zip code. She said she would love to have a Wilton zip code.

Dan Tagliento of 29 Jones Road thanked the board for the opportunity to speak. He said he would repeat almost everything that was already brought to the board's attention and knows the board is aware of it. There are no property taxes but there are things we pay for to live in Wilton. Children move into the community and our school taxes go up. The maintenance on the highway and number of miles the highway superintendent takes care of increases leading to cost increases. There are a number of places, intersections mostly, that have developed into a bucket list. If we are going to continue to add new neighbors and people, the congestion or use of the highways is only going to increase. There are a number of intersections that are becoming not just a nuisance but possible accident areas. The intersection of Northern Pines and Traver Road, the north end of Smith Bridge Road and Route 9 with the amount of traffic at certain hours people take daring chances getting into traffic. We are probably six years beyond the responsibility for New York State Department of Transportation, the City of Saratoga Springs and the Town of Wilton of clearing up and straightening up the radius on the arterial. If you go that way, people are jumping the curb to make a right hand turn. That work had been planned and paid for eight years ago. The money was transferred by our state senator to complete work in Malta. Before we expand areas, we need to catch up with the lists we are developing that hurts our community by presence and use.

Connie Towers of 92 Ernst Road said she agreed with Nancy Gatland's comments about the committee. She said she was at the May public hearing and what a tremendous amount of work was done going back through all of the pages of the master plan.

The town is looking at some great things with renewable energy, conservation overlays in Planning Area 1, architectural standards and guidelines and a hamlet master plan. She asked if the hamlet master plan will be an addendum. Mr. Riper said it would be and the committee discussed two separate hamlet areas. Ms. Towers said the two hamlets have been sore points. A hamlet master plan would serve as the town's official use policy for the two areas. A new H-2 area was discussed in the Route 9 and Wilton-Gansevoort Road area. It would be less dense with smaller scale development then that in the H-1 zone. Will the town define these things before someone comes in with a project? Will the town be ready for it so that the master plan and the revisiting of the H-1 to define the boundaries and the actual H-2 is in place so we are ahead of the game. The maximum density should be revisited for both of the areas. If a new H-2 zone is created it will have to go back to the zoning laws for hamlets and that will bring us back to 129-176 M which is the apartment building densities which went from 8 to 15. There is somewhere in the middle that we can deal with. The hamlet law will put you back to that zoning law and it will have to be reconfigured at some point at the town board level. Everyone is on a great path with a lot of effort and a lot of work. There is a lot of work to be done but would really like to see something done with the Hamlet Master Plan so that we don't go back to where we were before. If it is started and cemented from the beginning we hopefully won't have the problems. It's remarkable to keep moving forward. Defining the zoning and the terms and the guidelines will help fill in the blanks

between the transition of residential and apartments. Hopefully it will retain the old neighborhoods, the people that have been paying taxes for a long time that are still here and want to see the town progress but want to make sure that it's still the quality they came to live here for. It's a wonderful town.

Supervisor Johnson said once the plan is adopted it is backfilled with the zoning. Mr. Riper said the zoning requirements will be revisited and it is a much larger project. Supervisor Johnson asked if that will address the Hamlet Master Plan. Mr. Riper stated the Hamlet Master Plan is something separate. It will help address the zoning details, architectural standards and density. Councilman McEachron asked if it will address the end of the "mega buildings". Mr. Riper said it is something that can be addressed in the zoning changes. Attorney Schachner said that would be the town board's decision. Councilman Lant asked if hamlets are needed in the town. Councilman McEachron said it was mentioned that this happened in the last couple of years. It was longer than a couple years, it was about four years. **Deputy** Supervisor Streicher said it was more than that. Councilman McEachron said he was talking about the "mega building". Deputy Supervisor Streicher said the "mega building" was on the books six to seven years ago. Councilman McEachron it wasn't approved by the town at that time. Deputy Supervisor Streicher agreed but said it was in the zoning as a possibility. Councilman McEachron said the community was against it. Deputy Supervisor Streicher said it was allowed in the zoning and we didn't have a choice. Councilman McEachron asked if there was a new way of writing the code to eliminate that from happening again. Deputy Supervisor Streicher said the board could change the zoning laws. Supervisor Johnson said the size of the lot has a lot to do with the number of units. Councilman **McEachron** said when the number of units is changed from eight to fifteen that allows these building to be erected. Supervisor Johnson said eight units per acre was a PUD requirement. The hamlet district had a higher density. That is what the H-1 zone calls for now and was when it was approved. Councilman McEachron said it is definitely an eyesore and doesn't want to see three or four more. Supervisor Johnson it would be impossible because there isn't any land to build them. Councilman Lant said the four or five lots were combined to build the last one. Supervisor Johnson said you cannot undo the past but we can work with the future.

Stephen Harran, Jr. of 165 Parkhurst Road asked if the board was going to approve anything tonight or if there would be further discussion. The reason for asking is because for the last year he said he has stepped back as if he was just an ordinary citizens. It is amazing very few people in this town actually know what is in the Comprehensive Plan. He said he did not know, until tonight, that he could have gotten a copy of it. The only news received, relative to the meeting tonight, is through the Saratogian. There was a lady who spoke of the monstrosity on Route 9. Mr. Harran said he would like the town board to call a meeting and the Comprehensive Plan can be discussed in great detail by the members on that board so there will be total understanding, in this town, to what some people think we should look like. He said he would not comment because he didn't know about it. Go slow and give the people a chance to understand and see what happens. It may be a great plan. Supervisor Johnson said it has not been rushed into. The update started a year ago. The committee was appointed and there have been open meetings and a public hearing by the committee. If you don't know about it, you weren't here in Wilton. It's been advertised as public meetings. It's been open and transparent. Mr. Harran asked where was it advertised? Supervisor Johnson said it has been in the Saratogian and the other papers. Mr. Riper said it was in Saratoga Today. Mr. Reale said it was on Time Warner television and the website. Mr. Harran said the board should think about it from the view of the residents. The board is saying it was in Saratoga Today but said he hasn't seen it. Admittedly, he said he is in Florida for three or four months a year but hasn't seen anything about this. There has to be a better way of doing it because the way we are doing it now is not getting the message through. Not to say it is a good or bad

plan because he said he didn't know but would really like to see it so he could think about it. There has to be other kinds of open meetings. Supervisor Johnson said this had to be the most open and transparent process the town has ever had regarding the Comprehensive Plan, obviously you did not see advertisements or read the paper. Mr. Harran said that means he is blind and deaf. Supervisor Johnson said no but there was opportunity, it was not done in a vacuum. Mr. Harran said that is not what he was suggesting. He said he was suggesting of the thousands of people out there that you think you are communicating to and maybe you're not or you are using the wrong method. He said he didn't know. Mr. Harran said he is not stupid but has no idea what the Comprehensive Plan says. Supervisor Johnson said if you don't know it's because you haven't taken the initiative to read it or find out about it. It's been out there, in the paper and on the website. Mr. Harran said he doesn't go on the website, you are talking about the millennium people. Supervisor Johnson asked Mr. Harran if he would like to sign up on the email list. Councilman McEachron asked Mr. Harran if he had any suggestions. Mr. Harran said he did not but would love to have a method. It is difficult. He said he's been on planning boards, zoning boards and the county IDA. At this moment, he said he didn't have the impression, the average people of this town, know what the plan is. Maybe it is a superior one. There should be other kinds of meetings that are highly publicized, not on the computer. There are a lot of old people in this town. Let them come to a meeting, maybe a series of meetings. He said he didn't even know who was on the committee and their background may say a lot about what they are thinking. Maybe that thinking isn't what everyone else in the community wants. We are not Saratoga Springs, we are not Albany and we are not Long Island. This whole community is changing in complexion and maybe that is not the way we want to go but maybe the community wants to go that way. Communicate differently and I can't give you an idea as to how to do that. I can tell you I had no idea what the meeting was about. I thought the meeting would have the planning members who did this would be there to discuss what they are doing and what was their motivation and where they expect to be. Supervisor Johnson said there have been many meetings and all of that has been completed. Councilwoman Klepetar said when the committee started we talked about how to get the word out to people, young and older. It was on the website and advertised thoroughly, short of putting out a newsletter for every individual household. Mr. Harran said there has to be a better way of communicating because he said he knows too many people that have no idea of what is going on here. Councilwoman Klepetar said it is a good plan. Mr. Harran said he heard that ten years ago with Ray O'Conor. It was a good plan but someone messed it up. Deputy Supervisor Streicher said no matter what was done there would be someone who did not get the message even if we sent letters. Everyone has busy lives. Mr. Harran said he wasn't pointing any fingers. He said a majority of the board are people he voted for because we needed that change. Let's hope you don't mess it up like the previous group.

Supervisor Johnson asked if there were any more questions or comments. There were none. The public hearing was closed at 7:28

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING-September 3, 2015

Supervisor Johnson called the Regular Town Board meeting to order at 7:28 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Supervisor Johnson led the board and the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call

Roll Call by the Town Clerk showed all board members present.

Arthur Johnson-Supervisor Steve Streicher-Deputy Supervisor Joanne Klepetar-Councilwoman John Lant-Councilman John McEachron-Councilman

Also present was Director of Planning and Engineering, Ryan Riper, Town Comptroller, Jeffrey Reale and Town Counsel, Mark Schachner.

Public Comment Session

Dan Tagliento of 29 Jones Road said he wanted to continue on the condition of the roads. As the town continues to grow, the economy is changing for the better and people know this is a great place to raise a family. The Highway Superintendent has been doing an excellent job. Repairs have been made to the storm drains. It shouldn't be a burden for the highway department to fix or upgrade the storm drains. Mitigation fees are used sparingly and wisely. We are coming to the point we will be building out 90% to 100% of the town. We are going to have to live with it. Several miscues have happened. There are homes being built and they are a welcomed addition into the community. If people walk or bicycle, they can't do it on that shoulder. Maybe it is part of the Comprehensive Plan, not to punish the developer and make a project more costly. Smith Bridge Road is perilous, especially when there are pedestrians and bicyclists. We have to get a transportation committee to identify the locations that have to be fixed. If we wait too long, what used to cost \$50,000 to \$60,000, like a traffic signal, now costs over \$100,000.

Supervisor Johnson noted a traffic study was just completed and identified many of the troublesome intersections. We will also be updating our Pathways Plan for pedestrians and bicyclists. **Councilman McEachron** said the Highway Superintendent has never been denied money to widen shoulders.

Supervisor Johnson noted the public hearing for the Comprehensive Land Use Plan is closed but the public comment period will be open through September 15, 2015. **Attorney Schachner** said there are additional steps in the process. MJ Engineering will prepare a final generic impact statement and if completed can be considered at the October meeting. If accepted at the October meeting, a SEQRA finding statement has to be prepared for consideration. That may be considered and adopted at the November meeting. That would be the final act of adopting the Comprehensive Land Use Plan update. **Supervisor Johnson** said there is still opportunity for public input. **Attorney Schachner** said there is opportunity for written input through September 15, 2015. Public comment can be accepted after that, as the board frequently does.

Approve Pending Minutes

On a motion introduced by Councilman McEachron, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #144

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the minutes from the August 6, 2015 meeting, as typed.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilwoman Klepetar, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion carried 5-0.

Speed Limit Reduction Request

Supervisor Johnson said there is a speed limit reduction request for Gailor Road between Northern Pines Road and Traver Road. The process is to send the request to the Saratoga County Public Works Commissioner and it will then be forwarded to the state for review. **Councilman Lant** suggested all of the speed limits be reviewed.

On a motion introduced by Councilman Lant, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #145

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the referral of a speed limit reduction request to the Saratoga County Public Works Commissioner for Gailor Road between Northern Pines Road and Traver Road.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman McEachron, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion carried 5-0.

Reappointment-Board of Assessment Review

On a motion introduced by Councilman Lant, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #146

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the reappointment of Martha LaDue to the Board of Assessment Review for a five year term (10/01/2015-09/30/2020).

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman McEachron, duly

put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed to 5-0

Hudson River Valley Greenway

Supervisor Johnson said Hudson River Valley Greenway is a two part process. There is participation in the program and there is a grant process.

Mr. Riper said the town would like to update the Open Space, Trails and Recreation Pathways Plan. There is a grant opportunity with a 50/50 match of funds. The town has to participate in the Hudson River Valley Greenway. **Supervisor Johnson** noted many towns and the county are participants. There is no local control and it opens up grant opportunities. **Mr. Riper** said the town will maintain "home rule".

On a motion introduced by Councilman Lant, the board accepted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #147 DESIGNATION OF THE TOWN OF WILTON/COUNTY OF SARATOGA AS A GREENWAY COMMUNITY

WHEREAS, the Hudson River Valley Greenway Act, (hereinafter, the "Greenway Act") Chapter 748 of the Laws of 1991, has as a legislative goal the establishment of the Greenway Compact, a process for voluntary regional cooperation and decision-making among the communities of the Hudson River Valley, and

WHEREAS, the process and programs that will comprise the Compact are under development, and

WHEREAS, communities may participate in the initiation and implementation of the compact process, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Wilton is situated in the Greenway area as it was officially designated in the Greenway Act, and

WHEREAS, the Greenway Act permits the Hudson River Valley Greenway Communities Council (hereinafter the "Council"), and the Greenway Conservancy for the Hudson River Valley, Inc. (hereinafter the "Conservancy") to assist communities in developing local planning

and projects related to the five criteria contained in the Greenway Act: natural and cultural resource protection, regional planning, economic development (including tourism, agriculture and urban redevelopment), enhancing public access to the Hudson River and heritage and environmental education, and

WHEREAS, communities can become eligible to receive technical and financial assistance from the Greenway, and

WHEREAS, community participation in the Greenway planning process is voluntary, and

WHEREAS, the Greenway Act does not supersede or change the powers that the State has previously granted municipal governments under the New York State Constitution, the Municipal Home Rule Law or pursuant to the various municipal enabling acts, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED AS FOLLOWS:

The Wilton Town Board supports the criteria contained in the Greenway Act and the process by which the Compact will be achieved, and The Wilton Town Board endorses the designation of the Town of Wilton/County of Saratoga by the Greenway Council and Conservancy as a *Greenway Community*.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilwoman Klepetar, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion carried 5-0.

Committee Reports

Councilwoman Klepetar said on September 15, 2015, the Senior Center is celebrating their 36th year anniversary with a celebration at the Center.

Last year, four new volunteers were found to for the RUOK program. This fall there will be a meeting with Duane Bogardus to set up the program for this winter in case it is needed.

Councilman Lant said the Code Enforcement Officer has some problems. He sends violation letters and follows through with things. Nothing ever seems to get done about the violations. Maybe if the code enforcement officer could have the authority to send letters and issue fines. It could be looked into by town counsel. Attorney Schachner said villages and cities have certain powers that towns don't have. It will be looked into. Deputy Supervisor Streicher asked if the judges have the authority to fine. Attorney Schachner said they do have that authority. Councilwoman Klepetar said it has been very frustrating for the code enforcement officer. Councilman McEachron asked if Mr. Mykins can write a summons. Attorney Schachner said Mr. Mykins will write a notice of violation with a town court citation. The judge has the authority to levy fines. Deputy Supervisor Streicher asked what the process be to ensure fines are levied for violations like they are for speeding tickets.

Supervisor Johnson said he appointing a personnel committee to resolve some lingering issues. There are some policies in place that need to be enforced. The committee is as follows; Councilman John Lant, Town Comptroller, Jeff Reale, Town Clerk, Sue Baldwin and Nancy Riely.

Comptroller's Report

1.) June Cash Disbursements

General Fund \$428,562 <u>Highway Fund</u> \$424,686 Total \$853,248

2.) 2015 Budget Amendments

Highway Superintendent Woodcock stated the salt vendor is the same one as the town had last year. We had multiple problems with them last year but they were the only bidders. It may be a tough winter to get the product and the price has increased.

Deputy Supervisor Streicher asked Superintendent Woodcock the status of the road repairs. **Superintendent Woodcock** said the roads have been completed ahead of time and additional projects have been completed. He said he thought the unexpended balance should be transferred into an account so the board knows how much has been completed and also for equipment. **Deputy Supervisor Streicher** said he would like to see additional work done while the prices are low. **Superintendent Woodcock** said there is a complete subdivision in the budget for next year. The comptroller said there is enough money to pave Louden Road from Ingersol to the mall. From the mall to Weible Avenue should be a joint venture with the City of Saratoga Springs because the line is down the center of the road. We will try to coordinate that with the city.

On a motion introduced by Councilman Lant, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #148

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the 2015 budget amendments requested for and listed in the Comptroller's 9/03/2015 report (attached) to the Town Board.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Streicher, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

3.) Personnel

On a motion introduced by Councilman Lant, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #149

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to ratify the decision to allow Richard McCane to donate 40 hours of vacation time to Noel Jennings.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Deputy Supervisor Streicher, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

4.) Pathways Plan

On a motion introduced by Councilman McEachron, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #150

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to authorize Supervisor Johnson to enter into an agreement with the LA Group for professional services relating to the update of the Open Space, Recreation and Pathways Plan in the amount of \$18,000.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Lant, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

5.) Hudson River Valley Greenway

On a motion introduced by Councilwoman Klepetar, the board adopted the following resolution:

RESOLUTION #151

WHEREAS, the Town of Wilton is applying to the Hudson River Valley Greenway for a grant under the 2015 Greenway Conservancy Trail Grant Program for a project entitled Update of the Open Space, Recreation and Pathways Plan to be located in the Town of Wilton.

WHEREAS, the grant application requires the applicant municipality to obtain the approval/endorsement of the governing body of the municipality or municipalities in which the project will be located;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that the governing board of the Town of Wilton hereby does approve and endorse the application for a grant under the 2015 Greenway Conservancy Small Grant Program, for a project known as the Updated of the Open Space, Recreation and Pathways Plan and located within this community.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Lant, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

6.) 2015 Traffic Engineering Study

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor Streicher, the board adopted the following resolution;

RESOLUTION #152

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to authorize Supervisor Johnson to enter into an agreement with the Greenman-Pedersen for professional services relating to the update of the 2015 Traffic and Engineering Study Update for the amount of \$20,000 paid for with Traffic Mitigation Funds.

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilman Lant, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

7.) <u>Traffic Mitigation Funds</u>

Mr. Reale said the highway superintendent has requested \$20,000 from the traffic mitigation funds for the widening of shoulders on Louden Road. This requires a budget amendment. Councilman Lant asked how much money is left in the highway budget. Mr. Reale said the widening of the shoulders allows for the use of traffic mitigation funds to help offset the cost of paving the road, which is between \$120,000 and \$130,000. The highway superintendent will be using all of road improvement monies. It was over \$1,000,000. Councilman McEachron asked if the board approves this on every road that is widened. Mr. Reale said only for the funds used from the traffic mitigation fund. The widening of the shoulders falls in line with the traffic study so the cost can be absorbed by the traffic mitigation monies. Superintendent Woodcock stated the shoulders are complete on Louden Road. The money is to remove a guardrail and offset it so people can use the paved shoulder.

On a motion introduced by Deputy Supervisor Streicher, the board adopted the following resolution;

RESOLUTION #153

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to approve the budget amendment requested by the highway superintendent for \$20,000 from the Traffic Mitigation Funds to increase DA5111 (Appr. Reserves-Traffic Mitigation) and DA51122.2 (Road Improvements-Louden Road).

The adoption of the resolution was seconded by Councilwoman Klepetar, duly put to a vote, all in favor. The motion passed 5-0.

Adjournment

On a motion introduced by Councilwoman Klepetar and seconded by Deputy Supervisor Streicher with all board members in favor, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

	Respectfully Submitted,
	Susan Baldwin, Town Clerk
Su	pervisor, Arthur Johnson

 Councilman, John Lant
 Deputy Supervisor Steve Streicher
 Councilwoman Joanne Klepetar
Councilman McEachron

