

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN INFORMATIONAL MEETING-BOARD OF TRUSTEES-  
SEPTEMBER 7, 2004-7:00PM**

**PRESENT: ERNEST W. MARTIN, MAYOR; TRUSTEES – JOHN MURPHY,  
RAYMOND WALKER, MARTIN RICCARDI, MICHAEL HANEHAN\***

**ALSO PRESENT: LINDA SANDERS, HISTORIAN; SETH COHEN COMMITTEE  
MEMBER, JOAN RONDA, COUNCILWOMAN; DENNIS LATHAM, CHIEF OF  
POLICE; THOMAS MELLON, BUILDING CODE OFFICER**

RESIDENTS: Annetta Melber, Josef Mueller, James Champlin, John Basile, William Stanley

Mayor Martin called the meeting to order and led the Pledge to the Flag. He then welcomed everyone to the meeting, he introduced Trustee Raymond Walker, Chairman of the Committee to prepare the Comprehensive Plan for the Village of Stillwater.

Trustee Walker thanked the members of the Committee for their hard work, he explained the Village has no directional foundation and we have had several developers express interest in developing land within the Village.

**Policy Statement of Community Intent:**

A comprehensive plan serves the following purposes:

- It operates as an overall guide to be used in day-to-day development decisions
- It serves as a coordinating mechanism for officials responsible for implementing elements of the plan
- It provides residents with information on how the community will develop
- It gives the public and private sectors a clear statement of what the community will expect in development proposals
- It provides a legal basis for the specific land use regulations and other Local government functions that will govern the structure of the community in the future.

**Mission Statement:**

The Comprehensive Plan is a forward thinking vision for the village of Stillwater. This plan identifies important elements of the Village's natural, historic and man-made environment and provides goals and recommendations intended to preserve that environment, while supporting growth that is compatible with community standards.

**GOAL No. 1**

In order to continuously improve the quality of life for its residents and maintain its friendly atmosphere, the Village of Stillwater will encourage quality law enforcement, a strong justice system, personal pride and responsibility: neighborly atmosphere, ethical leadership; and citizen involvement, particularly youth involvement, in the community to create a better future

**GOAL No. 2**

Education and recreation will be diverse, of the highest standard and available to all age groups

**GOAL No. 3**

The Village and Town governments will work together to achieve community goals in a cooperative and efficient manner. The Town and Village governments should consolidate services wherever it proves beneficial to both municipalities and their respective taxpayers.

**GOAL No. 4**

To maintain our small village character, historic sites and structures. To protect these assets and restore them as needed. Our architecture is unique. New structures will be designed to compliment rather than clash with existing structures. Attractive markers or small signs should signify places of historic interest to educate residents as well as visitors.

### **GOAL No. 5**

The Village of Stillwater supports planning policies that promote environmental sound development in all areas of the village. The socio-economic needs of the area must be balanced with the need for development, keeping in mind that open spaces and rural aspects of our village are not replaceable.

### **GOAL No. 6**

The Village of Stillwater will maintain and encourage diversity in all aspects of the community. We will continue to encourage the location of a variety of businesses, and recreational choices within the village. There will be diversity in housing to appeal to all levels of income including cluster housing, apartments, etc. that are well planned and are complimentary to the future vision of the village.

### **GOAL No. 7**

Village efforts should promote awareness and protection of natural resources, and scenic areas. The Hudson River flows beautifully by the village and adds visually pleasing panoramas as you enter the village from the south. The village should make every effort to protect it and its green spaces; these areas have aesthetic and recreational value for both residents and visitors. The village should develop a plan to make the river frontage more accessible for residents and visitors for recreational uses.

### **GOAL No. 8**

The Village should attempt to encourage a variety of business and employment opportunities.

### **GOAL No. 9**

Utilities including roads, water, sewer, electric, telecommunications and other types of infrastructure will be adequately developed to support both residential and business areas without detracting from the scenic beauty of the village.

### **GOAL No. 10**

Minimize traffic congestion, maintain existing roads and ensure any future improvements will benefit the village.

### **GOAL No. 11**

A waterfront area will be developed for the benefit of the citizens and neighbors in Stillwater. The Hudson River is a valuable asset to the village and has played a key role in its history.

### **GOAL No. 12**

Promotion of tourism has many economic benefits to a community. Using the river as a centerpiece would greatly improve the potential for business to be successful in the village. Existing businesses mostly depend on the village residents for their livelihood. Bringing outside money into the local economy is desirable but the potential impact of increased tourism has to be understood. Parking demands, increase traffic and pollution are all factors that need to be considered

Discussion was held with regard to the various goals for the plan. Residents in attendance feel it is an important step in keeping the current character of the village. They would like to see recreation and tourism increase. It was brought up that Schuylerville is experiencing revitalization and Stillwater seem to be standing still.

Mayor Martin spoke regarding the real need for this plan, with the approval of the Malta Tech Park, the village will change and there would be no control without some type of plan for the future.

Trustee Walker stated residents of the village will not be able to predict the future, without some type of plan, people from other areas will determine how the village will progress.

It was brought up that adequate parking needs to be addressed, currently there are problem spots throughout the village.

Trustee Walker explained the steps in the creation of a Comprehensive Plan they are: have a committee prepare a plan and present to the public, hold a public hearing to get public input, adopt the plan and present to the County of Saratoga Planning Board for their review.

A Public Hearing on the Comprehensive Plan was scheduled for Tuesday, September 28, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Boardroom.

Trustee Walker thanked everyone for their attendance and their valuable input.

The Clerk advised that in completing the paperwork for submission to the Department of State for financing the new brush truck, a resolution authorizing the Mayor to apply for funding is required. The application is for \$50,000 to complete the conversion of the cab and chassis to a fire fighting brush truck.

**MOTION** authorizing the Mayor to apply for a \$50,000 loan from the New York State Department of State to finance the cost of the new brush truck body for the Newland Wood Fire Department made by Trustee Murphy, seconded by Trustee Walker.  
Motion carried 4-0

**MOTION** to adjourn made by Trustee Riccardi, seconded by Trustee Hanehan.  
Motion carried 4-0

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Margo L. Partak  
Clerk-Treasurer