

TOWN OF ROCHESTER

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Area Code 845

Town Clerk 626-7384
Supervisor 626-3043
Highway Dept 626-7221
Assessor 626-0920
Transfer Station 626-5273



Code Enforcement 626-2433
Planning Board 626-2434
Zoning Board 626-2434
Court House 626-2522
Youth Commission 626-2115

Town of Rochester Proposed Addendum to Comprehensive Plan

Historic Resources Report Reconnaissance Survey – 2008 Historic Recon Home List 2008 - Update as of 03_2021 Phase 1: Documenting Ten Historic Farmsteads - 2010 Open Space Inventory - 2016 Natural Heritage Plan - 2018

Resolution xxx of 2022

Whereas, on November 26, 2006 the Town of Rochester adopted the Town of Rochester Comprehensive Plan and addendums; and

Whereas; this was an update to a plan dating to 1969, and

Whereas, in 2009, the Town of Rochester adopted new Subdivision and Zoning Codes with Local Laws 4 and 6 of 2009. These were repealed with Local Laws 1 and 2 of 2014, with substantial change being made to both codes with the adopted local laws. Since that time, the Zoning Code has been amended with LL3-2016, LL3-2018, LL4-2019, and LL3-2021; and

Whereas, the Town of Rochester Town Board believes the Town's zoning and Subdivision laws, as currently adopted require review and likely update; and

Whereas, NYS laws require land use laws to adhere to the Town's adopted Comprehensive Plan; and

Whereas, since adoption of the 2006 Comprehensive Plan, the Town Board, Town Historian, Historic Preservation Commission, Environmental Conservation Commission, and other Town Board designated committees have produced valuable reports and studies, enumerated further below in this resolution, of town land use, environment, and historic resources, and

Whereas, The Town Board desires to include these studies and reports as addendum to the adopted Comprehensive Plan; and

Whereas, on March 26, 2009 the Town of Rochester Historic Preservation Commission presented the *Historic Resources Report Reconnaissance Survey* to the Town of Rochester Town Board; and

Whereas, A public presentation by Harry Hansen, author of the report, was held on April 20, 2009 at 7:00pm at the Rochester Reformed Church; and

Whereas, on October 2010 the Town of Rochester Historic Preservation Commission published the document *Phase 1: Documenting Ten Historic Farmsteads*; and

Whereas, in 2015, the Town of Rochester was awarded a \$10,000 grant by the New York State Department of Conservation Hudson River Estuary Program with contract #T305367; and

Whereas, The Town of Rochester Town Board issued a Request for Proposal to seek sealed bids for a consultant to perform an *Open Space Inventory* with resolution #78-2015 on June 4, 2015; and

Whereas, The Town of Rochester Town Board approved proposal by John Mickelson of Ecological & Geospatial Service to conduct the *Open Space Inventory* in accordance with agreement in their proposal with resolution #99-2015 on August 6, 2015; and

Whereas, Mr. Mickelson and a group of volunteers conducted a series of meetings resulting in the document *Town of Rochester Open Space Inventory*, dated January 2016; and

Whereas, The NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation Hudson River Estuary Program reissued a grant opportunity on May 22, 2015 for Local Stewardship Planning; and

Whereas, The Town of Rochester Town Board adopted resolution #79-2015 on June 4, 2015 to submit application for such grant requesting funding of \$50,000 to conduct a joint *Open Space Plan Project* with the Town of Wawarsing; and

Whereas, the Towns of Rochester and Wawarsing Town Boards obtained a 2015 Hudson River Estuary Grant from the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation in the amount of \$ 50,000.00 for Rochester and Wawarsing to conduct a collaborative *Open Space Plan* in accordance with the dictates of the grant agreement; and

Whereas, said grant called for the formation of an advisory board comprised of representatives of both Rochester and Wawarsing; and

Whereas, the grant required that 20 per cent matching funds be provided by the Grant Recipient (Rochester) under the Grant Agreement; and

Whereas, Wawarsing reimbursed Rochester for fifty percent of said payments, upon audit of same and total matching funds did not exceed Ten Thousand Dollars with each Town paying no more than five thousand toward same; and

Whereas, the Town of Rochester Town issued a Request for Proposals for a consultant to produce Open Space Plans for the Towns of Wawarsing and Rochester; and

Whereas, The Towns of Rochester and Wawarsing established a joint advisory board consisting of one Town Official, one member of the ECC, and one member of the public, from each Town, for a total of six-member advisory board with resolution #87-2016 on May 5, 2016; and

Whereas, the Town of Rochester contracted with Church and Mickelson Consultants for the sum of \$48,500 for services to produce an agreed upon set of deliverables pursuant to this grant with resolution #88-2016; and

Whereas, such contract called for a target completion date of March 31, 2017; and

Whereas, the advisory committee was established consisting of Carl Chipman, Supervisor, Laura Finestone, Environmental Conservation Commission, and Rick Jones, Planning Board from Rochester and Terry Houck, Town Board, Jack Grifo, Environmental Conservation Commission, and Jorge Gomes, Parks and Recreation Committee from Wawarsing; and

Whereas, the Town of Rochester received payment of \$5,000 from the Town of Wawarsing in April 2017

Whereas, the advisory committee met with the consultants and other Town Boards, Commissions, and Committees as well as Laura Heady from the NYS DEC for a period of 18 months; and

Whereas, The Town of Rochester work builds on the 2006 draft natural resource inventory (Chazen) and the 2016 open space inventory of the town.

Whereas, This Town *Natural Heritage Plan* is written to directly support two key documents, the 2006 Town of Rochester Comprehensive Plan and the 2007 Ulster County Open Space Plan; and

Whereas, a first draft version of the *Town of Rochester Natural Heritage Plan* was presented to the Town of Rochester Town Board dated January 12, 2018; and

Whereas, at the Town Board meeting on January 25, 2018 the consultants presented said first draft to the Board and public with a presentation and question and answer session; and

Whereas, The Town of Rochester Plan lists the following components; Town-wide Water quality and flood management, Protection of the Rondout Creek, Agriculture and Heritage Farm Protection, Catskill Shawangunk Greenway Corridor and Colony Farm, O & W Rail Trail Project, Biodiversity Protection, and Scenic Viewsheds & Gateways; and

Whereas, on March 13, 2018 a joint public meeting of the Town of Wawarsing and Rochester Town Boards was advertised and convened, and the plans were presented to the Boards and the public with a question and answer session; and

Whereas, the advisory committee and consultants took the comments and questions and has prepared a revision to the first draft dated April 2, 2018; and

Whereas, such draft was presented to the Town Supervisor for distribution to the Town of Rochester Town Board; and

Whereas, The Town of Rochester Town Board formed the Comprehensive Plan and Land Use Code Review Committee in 2020 which actively worked on reviewing and making recommendations of updating the Town's Codes to achieve those goals and to identify the types of land use and resource regulations which may best implement the shared community vision of the Town as will be guided and implemented through the Comprehensive Plan.

Therefore, the Town Board of the Town of Rochester desires to adopt the following as addendums to the Town of Rochester Comprehensive Plan;

Historic Resources Report Reconnaissance Survey, dated 2008

Prepared by Harry Hansen, Kyserike Restorations, Inc.

Accompanying Historical Property List, updated as of March 2021

Updated by Town Historian and Historic Preservation Commission

Phase 1: Documenting Ten Historic Farmsteads, dated October 2010

Prepared by Neil Larsen, Larson Fisher Associates

Open Space Inventory, dated January 2016

Prepared by John Mickelson, Geospatial & Ecological Resources

Natural Heritage Plan, dated April 2, 2018

Prepared by John Mickelson, Geospatial & Ecological Resources and David E. Church, AICP

Resolution xxx of 2022

The Town of Rochester requests the Town Clerk to post notice of a public hearing on to be held at _____PM on May _____, 2022 at the Harold Lipton Community Center; and

Further, requests the Town Clerk to circulate notice of this hearing to any and all agencies as required by law; and

Further, requests the Town Clerk to circulate a copy of such plans to the Town of Rochester Planning Board, Ulster County Planning Board, and NYS Ag & Markets as is required by law