

**SPECIAL WORKSHOP  
MINUTES VAN ETTEN TOWN BOARD  
VAN ETTEN TOWN HALL  
6 GEE STREET, VAN ETTEN, NY  
VAN ETTEN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN  
JUNE 5, 2025**

SPECIAL WORKSHOP MEETING OF TOWN OF VAN ETTEN WAS CALLED TO ORDER BY TOWN SUPERVISOR GEORGE KETURI AT 7:17 PM.

**ROLL CALL OF TOWN BOARD**

HAROLD SHOEMAKER-COUNCILPERSON/DEPUTY SUPV.  
FRED SWAYZE, JR.-COUNCILPERSON  
PENNY FLORA-COUNCILPERSON  
ANDREW LARISON-COUNCILPERSON  
GEORGE KETURI-SUPERVISOR

**TOWN OFFICERS**

BOB EASTWOOD-H'WAY SUPT  
SALLY WHITSON-ASSESSOR-EXC  
DAWN ROSE-TOWN CLERK  
BRANDON DECKER-CODE ENF  
DENEEN DILLER- TOWN HIST-EXC  
HEATHER GABLE- WATER OPERATOR-EXC  
DUSTIN ROSE-CEMETERY CURATOR AND  
DOG CONTROL OFFCR.-EXC  
DONNA REDSICKER-WATER CLERK-EXC  
LEON TUTTLE-TOWN JUSTICE-EXC

OTHERS PRESENT: REBECCA WRIGHT, ROBIN ACKERLEY, ANGELA DENNISON, AND FRANK PATTERSON.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- TOWN OF VAN ETTEN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
  - SWAYZE, JR. NOTED TOWN OF VAN ETTEN IS CREATING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN. TOWN BOARD HAS TWO (2) EXAMPLES; ONE FROM CHEMUNG AND ONE FROM ASHLAND ON HAND.
  - SWAYZE, JR. RECOMMENDED ADVERTISING FOR QUOTES TO ASSIST WITH COMPLETING COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR TOWN. SWAYZE, JR. WILL REACH OUT TO MS. KRISTIN GRIFFITHS AT COUNTY PLANNING FOR GUIDANCE.
  - SWAYZE, JR. WILL BE LEADING COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING BOARD AND RECOMMENDED DENEEN DILLER (TOWN HISTORIAN) BE INCLUDED.
  - SWAYZE, JR. LISTED SOME IDEAS-NEW TOWN LOGO, IMPROVED WILDLIFE SANCTUARY I.E., HIKING TRAIL.
  - SWAYZE, JR. WILL INVESTIGATE NYS CANNABIS LAW, SOLAR AND WIND AND HOW THEY ARE INCORPORATED INTO COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.
  - FLORA SUGGESTED CONTEST FOR NEW VAN ETTEN LOGO.
  - SWAYZE, JR. ALSO NOTED VAN ETTEN IS CENTRALLY LOCATED WITHIN 25 MILES OF ITHACA, ELMIRA, WATKINS GLEN AND COULD BE INCLUDED IN WINE/BREWERY TRAIL. (WETLANDS BREWERY). VAN ETTEN HAS SHEPARD'S CREEK ALSO FOR EXCELLENT TROUT FISHING.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SHOEMAKER AND SECONDED BY KETURI TO APPOINT FRED SWAYZE, JR. AS HEAD OF COMPREHENSIVE PLAN STEERING COMMITTEE TO INCLUDE, PENNY FLORA, BRANDON DECKER AND BOB EASTWOOD. ALL AYE. CARRIED

- SWAYZE, JR. WILL REQUEST "RFQ" ADVERTISEMENT FOR COMPREHENSIVE PLAN COMMITTEE VOLUNTEERS AT NEXT TOWN BOARD MEETING.
- SHOEMAKER NOTED TOWN CAN'T MOVE FORWARD WITH SOLAR AND/OR WIND LAWS UNTIL TOWN HAS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN IN PLACE. SHOEMAKER NOTED TOWN WASN'T AWARE OF THIS UNTIL AFTER SOLAR/WIND MORATORIUM.

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- LARISON STATED IF NEW YORK CONSIDERS NATURAL GAS FRACKING AGAIN, TOWN SHOULD INCLUDE THAT IN COMPREHENSIVE PLAN.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SWAYZE, JR. AND SECONDED BY LARISON TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:45 PM. ALL AYE. CARRIED

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SHOEMAKER AND SECONDED BY FLORA TO ADJOURN FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:12 PM. ALL AYE. CARRIED

- KETURI STATED LEGAL AND PERSONNEL ISSUES WERE DISCUSSED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION.

REGULAR TOWN BOARD WILL BE HELD ON JUNE 12, 2025, AT 7:00 PM.

ADJOURNED AT 8:12 PM MOTION BY SWAYZE, JR. SECONDED BY LARISON. ALL AYE. CARRIED.