

I. INTRODUCTION

This Comprehensive Plan is the product of several years' development by the Town and Citizen Groups. In the spring of 2006 the Milo Town Board appointed a special Committee to prepare a new Comprehensive Plan for the Town. In addition, the Town Board hired two consultants, Reggie O'Hearn and Thomas P. Harvey^{AICP} to assist the Comprehensive Plan Committee in preparing the plan. As chosen by the Town Board, the new Town Comprehensive Plan employed a citizen participatory model; engaging interested citizens, business owners, town and other local officials in the process of developing the new Plan.

The Town used a variety of methods to engage participants in developing the Comprehensive Plan. These included advertising the meetings of the Comprehensive Plan Committee in local newspapers and radios, and inviting local residents to meetings. For the first year, the Committee meetings included a presentation by a guest speaker on a topic affecting the Town, such as the history of an important local business, lake level control, or of generation of electricity by wind energy. Residents became more engaged in the process and volunteered to serve on subcommittees dealing with a particular group of related issues. The planning consultants hired by the town furnished these Subcommittees with information and assistance with organizing their work. The Subcommittees presented topical findings and recommendations to the Comprehensive Plan Committee. The Comprehensive Plan Committee then discussed, modified if necessary, and then endorsed the various Subcommittee recommendations for inclusion in the plan. For input from the agricultural community, the consultants worked directly with the Town's existing Agriculture Committee. Business owners within the Town were engaged through one-on-one interviews conducted by the Consultants. Finally, residents and homeowners were engaged in the process through a public survey mailed to every business, property owner, and residence within the Town. The survey collected some demographic information, but was aimed primarily on soliciting opinions on issues and potential recommendations that the Comprehensive Plan Committee was working on. Results were tabulated, discussed with the various Subcommittees and committees, and recommendations developed or adjusted accordingly.

The Consultants used the information endorsed by the Comprehensive Plan Committee to draft the Comprehensive Plan. Individual chapters of the Comprehensive Plan were then presented to the Comprehensive Plan Committee for review, modification, and approval. Individual Chapters of the draft Plan were posted on the Town's website as well as being presented at the Comprehensive Plan Committee meetings. Two members of the Town Board regularly attended the Comprehensive Plan Committee meetings and provided continuous information between the Comprehensive Plan Committee and the Town Board. When the draft was finalized, a Public Hearing was held at the Milo Town Hall in front of the Comprehensive Plan Committee on April 8, 2009.

The draft Comprehensive Plan and a draft Environmental Assessment Form (pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act) were then presented by the Comprehensive Plan Committee to the Town Board for review and approval. In accordance with Town Law Section 272a, the draft Comprehensive Plan was then the subject of a Public Hearing before the

Town Board on _____ ??, 2009, The draft Comprehensive Plan was reviewed by the Yates County Planning Board on _____ ??, 2009, which recommended the Town Board adopt the plan as presented. The Milo Town Board adopted the Comprehensive Plan on _____ ??, 2009 by resolution, in accordance with Town Law Section 272a.