

Joseph Wetmore
Town Board Member Report
May 2022

Planning Board

4/25/22 meeting – canceled

Tompkins County Council of Governments (TCCOG)

April 28th 3-5 pm

Report from County Administration L. Holmes.

Discussion of towns sharing a central IT Services.

A summary of the progress the County's made on our resiliency and recovery plan by Plan S. Doyle.

Subcommittee Reports

- a. Transportation
- b Emergency Planning and Preparedness
- c. Energy

Ludlowville meeting

May 1-- 6-8pm

I met with about 35 Ludlowville residents for 2 hours about the proposed Park Plan to hear their concerns about the Ludlowville Park section. That represents well over half of the households in the neighborhood. A really good turnout for a rainy Sunday night. There are significant community concerns that need to be incorporated as this moves forward.

I led the group in the four major design elements of the proposed park plan, taking each one in its turn.

1. The sidewalk circling the park.

Everyone truly appreciated the need and desire to give handicapped access to the overlook of the falls. There were questions about how much the Town was going to maintain this in the winter time that I could not answer. People were also curious about whether the path would be surfaced in crushed stone or sidewalk material.

2. The parking lot.

People agree that there's a problem with folks parking on the grass and would certainly be in favor of seeing things done to make it more difficult for anyone to park on the grass. They would also be interested in seeing signs directing people to park at the fishing access parking areas instead of at the Park. Several people remarked that the walk to Ludlowville Park from either fishing access is shorter than it is to get to most waterfalls from parking access throughout the County.

There's interest in getting "No Parking" signs along the roadside. I told everyone that if they wanted no parking signs, they should put together a petition which included the folks who would

be directly adjacent to the No Parking areas along with other members of the neighborhood and submit it to the Town Board. I'm pretty sure Stan Taft is going to move forward on that. His property is immediately affected by on-street overflow parking.

They're also interested in seeing signs put up in the parking lot limiting parking there to 2 hours. They feel that people parked there all day long which doesn't allow that transition for many people to enjoy the falls.

Nobody wants to see the parking lot get larger. The general feeling is that the park is getting overly crowded by outsiders on a regular basis during the summer, and local residents feel forced out. This has already been exacerbated because of the bridge closures and general uptick in park visitation since COVID. A larger parking lot will make this worse.

3. Toilets.

This is a real hot button. Nobody wants them. The park is so small that any place you put a bathroom will be relatively close to somebody's house. There is a real concern about maintenance/whether they'll be maintained enough to not be a nuisance to the neighbors. Most people felt that having bathrooms on-site will only encourage visitors to stay longer.

4. Path down to Salmon Creek.

Nobody likes this either. The general feeling was that this path would make the area more accessible to people and cause more people to go down there. People expressed concern that even more people are swimming in an area that's not really safe to go swimming in. More garbage would get carried down and left. And that in order to make a path that was reasonably safe to go up and down they would have to rip out a lot of the trees and brush. Importantly, emergency access and rescue to the area at the base of the falls cannot be accomplished by the Lansing Fire and Rescue Department. Ithaca would have to be called, and the amount of time lost could result in some real risks. Those risks increase as more people have access.

Several people asked if the town would buy the parcel between the Federal House and the park and add it to the park.

Lots of people expressed that when they saw announcements about a park plan, they thought it pertained to Myers Park and the Town Lands Trail, and not Ludlowville Park. Everyone who attended the meeting really wants to be involved in any kind of design decisions for future changes to the park design. Some of these residents include well-known local landscape architects, designers, and architects.

The residents very much would like language included in the proposed plan that states the following things:

- A. That this is a conceptual description, and not an actual descriptive plan.
- B. That the Ludlowville residents will be a part of any redesign of Ludlowville Park.
- C. That not all of the design elements described in this plan will necessarily be incorporated in any future modifications of Ludlowville Park.

D. That the residents of Ludlowville object strongly to some of the elements described--in particular the toilet facility and the trail down the hillside to the bottom of the falls. (Many feel that leaving these items in the plan for Ludlowville Park feels like an endorsement of those elements. There's a strong feeling that the plan is not one-size-fits-all. The amenities necessary for a pocket park and areas 20-30 times larger like Myers and the Town Lands are not the same.)

Town of Lansing Code Revision Committee

Thursday, May 5:10:00am – 12:00pm

*Review of proposed draft revisions to Zoning Article VII: Principal, Accessory, and Temporary Uses

*Review of draft Agriculture (AG) Zoning District: Purpose; Uses; Schedule; Activation

*Recommendation to circulate the above preliminary draft Zoning text and Zoning map for refinement

Bolton Point meeting

Thursday, May 5:4:00 – 5:00pm

Management Staff Report

Committee Reports

- A. Budget and Finance Committee
- B. Engineering and Operations Committee
- C. Personnel and Organization Committee Meeting Agenda041
- D..Planning and Public Affairs Committee

Planning Board

Monday, May 9:6:30 – 9:30pm

(viewed on you-tube at a later date)

Conservation Advisory Council Presentation: proposed Cayuga Lake Scenic Byway Overlay

Liaison reports:

- Agriculture and Farmland Protection Committee
- Conservation Advisory Council
- Parks, Recreation, and Trails Advisory Committee
- Town Board (I missed the meeting and presented a written report in advance)
- Chair (Capital Improvement Committee and Code Revision Committee)

Lansing Advisory Committee on Power Plant Future (LAC-PPF)

Thursday, May 12, 7:00 – 8:30pm

List of committee priorities

Fact sheet on proof of work cryptocurrency

Ethan's proposal for next meeting discussion on nuclear