



**Lake Placid Village, Inc. and Town of North Elba
Joint Public Hearing Minutes
Tuesday, January 13, 2026**

Minutes of the Joint Village of Lake Placid and Town of North Elba Public Hearing held on the above date at 5:00 pm in the Board Room on the first floor of the Municipal Hall, 2693 Main Street, Lake Placid, NY and via videoconferencing.

Present:	Art Devlin	Mayor
	Rick Preston	Supervisor
	Jackie Kelly	Deputy Mayor/Trustee
	Emily Politi	Deputy Supervisor
	Katie Brennan	Trustee
	Marc Galvin	Trustee
	Andrew Quinn	Trustee
	Jason Leon	Councilman
	Richard Cummings	Councilman
	Jack Moulton	Councilman
	Anita A. Estling	Village Clerk
	Haley Breen	Community Development Director

Others:	Lou Reuter	Adirondack Daily Enterprise
	Teah Dowling	Sun Community News
	Dean Dietrich	
	Ron Briggs	
	May Chow	
	Ben Breen	
	Stephanie Pianka	
	Val Rogers	
	Leslie Shannon	
	Madeleine	
	2 unknown	

Mayor Devlin and Supervisor Preston opened the Board Meeting at 5:00 pm and presided over the meeting. The Public Hearing Notice was read by Clerk Estling. The notice is made a part of these minutes below:

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the Village Board of the Village of Lake Placid and the Town Board of the Town of North Elba will hold a joint public hearing on the proposed Comprehensive Plan,

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Tuesday, January 13, 2026, at 5:00 pm, in the main floor meeting room at North Elba Town Hall, 2693 Main Street, Lake Placid, NY.

The complete text of the proposed plan may be found here:
https://northelba.villageoflakeplacid.ny.gov/government/comprehensive_plan.php or is available for inspection by any interested person in the Village or Town Clerk's offices.

All interested persons are invited to attend the public hearing and will be given an opportunity to be heard. To join via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82506753829?pwd=siYsyXdGynSIJ6WX6D7nqhVvWU1V64.1>
Meeting ID: 825 0675 3829 Passcode: 121163

Anita Anthony Estling, Village Clerk
Laurie Curtis Dudley, Town Clerk

Posted: December 30, 2025

Mayor Devlin led with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Devlin (AD): At this point, Emily, would like to paraphrase what is going on.

Councilwoman Politi (EP): I actually didn't have anything prepared. Katie, do you want to paraphrase? I did have a thank you for the committee. That was all.

Trustee Brennan (KB): So, this is the comprehensive plan, and this is intended as an updated plan. The initial/last one that we've been currently operating with first came in in 2014, and the practice is to update these plans every five to ten years, so that was very much in line with that timeline and this has been about an 18 month/two year process. I'm looking at Dean for confirmation on when we actually kicked it off. But I think this has benefited from support from consultants, as well as a tremendous amount of community input through surveys, focus groups and also some stakeholder driven sessions. The long and the short of it is that this is intended to be a document that helps us chart our future and also really highlight some of the community priorities. Things that people view as challenges that we might want to consider addressing or looking for opportunities to address. And also highlight what's working well and what we as a community and the boards should consider continuing to support going forward. Hopefully this will be a really helpful document, and as you say Emily, thank you to everyone who participated and everyone who took time to respond to surveys and give input because we saw a lot of different faces at the events which was great.

EP: Yes there were surveys, a lot of stakeholder meetings, a lot of people put time and energy and feedback into this, in particular the steering committee, I see many faces in the audience and a couple online so thank you so much. It was more than a two year process, so the steering committee committed two years of their lives to seeing this through to the end, so thank you very much to those volunteers.

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AD: And I think the only other thing worth mentioning is that this is not a back-and-forth Town Hall meeting. This is a chance for anyone in the public who wants to be heard to be heard. Anything else that I've missed?

KB: I think we had a question are we intending to go through a summary of this today, and the answer is not today because there was already an opportunity when the consultants came and gave us some feedback and a summary of what they put together so this is intended... a link to the document is available online and this is just intended, as Art said, as a listening exercise.

EP: And if you wanted to watch that summary presentation online it is June 10 and recorded on our YouTube channel. With that, are there public comments?

AD: I don't know how many public comments there will be but as always do we want to set a time limit?

EP: Sure, I'm happy to be a timer. We can do three minutes. Just state your name.

AD: Would anyone like to speak?

Dean Dietrich (DD): I'll start us off, maybe I can add something too. Let me see if I can do it in three minutes. It's always my challenge in meetings.

EP: You're on the clock Dean.

DD: Three takeaways: Number one: One positive thing is that there still are a lot of people out there that really care about this community. 150 people at the open house. 65/70 people at the elementary school. There was a lot of input. I think the other thing is we got some positive things out of this. This really also highlighted, and this is the background, you're not going to see that anywhere, cooperation between the village, the town and ROOST. Because the comprehensive plan also included DRI, and so the workshop included the DRI thing, Downtown Revitalization Initiative. ROOST was there for that. Adam was there. Got a lot of important findings from there. And also, the town used the meetings to get some information on the Horse Show Grounds. So, it was a very effective process, and it was effective because of the cooperation of the town, the village and ROOST. And it's something that the plan calls for, every plan I've been involved in calls for, so thank you for that. And finally, it's not a summary, but it's my perspective of being here for a long time, and being involved in this for a long time, there's a new definition arising, not a new definition, but I'd say it's been on a continuum... When I first came here in the 80s, we were worried about the character of the town and what it looked like. We were very concerned about visuals. We were very concerned about scale, remember Walmart? We were very concerned about open space. We were very concerned that what it looked like was our character. I think this is the first time that we really made the change that we looked at it and the character of the town is about the people that are in the town. And you're going to deal with that on Thursday. I think this comprehensive plan sets up what's going to happen in the next ten years. We are going to be negotiating and then walking a tightrope between keeping the character of the individuals, and also affordable housing. We look at this comprehensive plan, it's character, it's about art, it's about

healthcare, it's about education, childcare, it's about affordable housing. And so, that's going to change the look of the town a little bit, and as I say you're going to wrestle with that on Thursday... you'll change the look of the town, but you will increase the character of the town. And that's what this comprehensive plan sets up. It fits in what we've done in the past, starting moving to densities, the next challenge I believe is the Land Use Code. We'll take some credit for that. Bill Billerman and some other guys, Bob Marvin, Michael Clark had a foresight to start setting things up. And that's where we can start changing the look of the town and actually add density. I see this as a continuing of what's happened in the past and set up some challenges for the future. I want to thank again, I see a lot of people, I didn't bring a list of all the people on the Steering Committee, but it's on the first page, so I hope everybody looks at that and says thank you when they see those people walk by. Did I stay within the three minutes?

EP: No. I paused it.

DD: I talk until a bell rings.

AD: You did well though. Credit given.

EP: Thanks Dean.

AD: Anybody else? It's going to be an easy meeting. Anybody that's online have any comments?

Stephanie Pianka (SP): This is Stephanie Pianka. I was a member of the Steering Committee and I just wanted to say that I thought it was a very fair and open process and I think that there was a good balance in discussion to the needs of the community and maintaining community that's really accessible and available where it benefits all type of individuals in the community and maintaining that community spirit, so I'm proud to have been a part of the committee. I think the work is well done, even though it took us a couple years.

AD: Thank you. Anything worth doing is worth doing right, so thank you for sticking with it for two years. Going once? Going twice? Obviously, any of us are available for comment or questions in the coming days. Most of you have our phone numbers. The timelines we've talked about, this won't be voted on until somewhere in February, mid to late February. So there still is time. Is there anything I'm missing or ought to have said? I would just like to thank everyone who put the time and effort into this too. I'm doing all of the speaking, but I have nothing to do with this, so thank you all of you for all the work you did.

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ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Devlin and Supervisor Preston closed the Public Hearing at 5:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Anita A. Estling". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Anita A. Estling
Village Clerk