

# Town of Liberty

Town of Liberty Government Center  
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*Deputy Supervisor*

RUSSELL REEVES

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September 19, 2016

**The Liberty Town Board has begun a process to change certain elements of our zoning codes. These proposed changes will affect what you can do with your property so it is important for you to become informed of the proposed changes and participate in the process.**

Dear Town of Liberty community member,

Over three years ago the Liberty Town Board began a process to make certain changes to its current zoning code to insure that our code supports commercial development while preserving the rural nature and quality of life we enjoy. The board strongly believes that the proposed changes are necessary to achieve this goal. Commercial development will increase the tax base of our community and will enable the town to provide the services our citizens need while keeping tax increases down.

After seeking public input in 2013, many committees of your friends and neighbors were set up to review the current zoning codes and make recommendations on how to achieve our goals. Besides a zoning regulation committee, hamlet committees were also established to set goals for each hamlet and make recommendations to the Town board. All the input received to date was considered by the board, and much of it is reflected in the changes that will be proposed. Zoning is a living document that needs to be continuously reviewed to be relevant to the nature of a community as it changes over time.

The awarding of a casino license to the developers in the Town of Thompson has made it clear that in order for Liberty to get our fair share of the economic benefits that will come, we need to expedite the work on our zoning.

To assist the Town in this process we contracted with professional planners, Behan Planning and Design along with Saratoga Associates, to review the land use and zoning element of our comprehensive plan and proposed changes to the town land use (zoning and subdivision) code.

The proposed changes are available for your review on our web page [www.townofliberty.org](http://www.townofliberty.org) or by contacting me [c.barbuti@townofliberty.org](mailto:c.barbuti@townofliberty.org). It is our hope that you will review the information on our web page and become informed of the proposed changes and that you will participate in the process.

**To help our taxpayers better understand the proposed changes one informational meeting has already been held. In case you missed it, another one will be held on October 4, 2016 at 6:30 p.m. at the Liberty High School Auditorium.**

In addition to the proposed zoning changes available for review on the town website, the town is drafting an update to the Comprehensive Plan and is conducting a review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA). Draft copies of these two documents will also be made available on the website for consideration prior to the informational meeting.

There will be public hearings on the changes in the months to come before any proposed changes are official, insuring that the public is heard.

Thank you,

Charlie Barbuti, Supervisor

Russell Reeves, Deputy Supervisor, Councilman  
Dean Farrand, Councilman  
Brian McPhillips, Councilman  
Vincent McPhillips, Councilman