

## Getting Organized and Explanation of Process

### Subsection A: Getting Organized and Explanation of Process

**What is a Comprehensive Plan?** The heart of a Comprehensive Plan is to identify growth areas within a town where they make the most sense. The two major areas to look at are residential neighborhoods and commercial centers. The plan is to stimulate economic growth while keeping the character of the town. The Clinton Comprehensive Planning Committee produced the new Clinton Comprehensive Plan by looking at the past, present, and a plan for the future.

**Process:** Many municipalities rely on a paid consultant to complete their Comprehensive Plan, however, this plan was written by the Comprehensive Planning Committee for the Town of Clinton with limited outside assistance.

The five stages of the plan which the committee used to develop Clinton's Comprehensive Plan are as follows:

- Inventory, analysis, and identify issues
- Review current and future land use
- Policy development
- Implementation strategies
- Approval process (State of Maine and Town of Clinton)

**Philosophy of the Comprehensive Planning Committee:** Throughout the writing of this plan, the committee's philosophy was to produce a document that could be useful to the town and that would meet the State of Maine requirements in Chapter 208: Comprehensive Plan Review Criteria Rule. The committee only identified issues that were pertinent and were attainable.

**Members:** The following are the members of Clinton's Comprehensive Planning Committee who met for the first time on April 10, 2019. Members were appointed by the Board of Selectmen.

- Terrance Knowles was elected Chairman on May 8, 2019. Terry had previously served as Chairman of the Brownville Budget Committee, Emergency Management Director for Brownville, Co-Chair of the rewrite of Brownville's Comprehensive Plan, and was member of the Tourism Committee for Brownville. Terry was chairman of the Piscataquis County Budget Committee. Terry has extensive training and experience as a Trained Meeting Facilitator. He currently serves on the Budget Committee and Highway Advisory Committee for Clinton. He retired as a Command Sergeant Major in the Army having served for over 30 years where he worked extensively on plans.
- David Record was voted Vice Chair of the Comprehensive Planning Committee on May 8, 2019. David has vast experience in Clinton Town Government to include Selectman, member of the First Park Board, served on a committee that explored revitalizing Clinton's village, and a board on economical development. He is a long-time citizen of Clinton who brings a vast array of experience and knowledge to the committee.

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- Margaret Williams was elected Scribe for the Committee on May 8, 2019. Margie served on Brownville's Budget Committee and Tourism Committee. She was a member of the committee that rewrote Brownville's Comprehensive Plan. She was the chairman of the Board for Brownville Free Public Library. Margie has extensive experience in personnel and administration from her 26 years in the Army National Guard. Several times the committee members gave kudos for being able to provide concise minutes and deal with many edits to the plan.
- Frank Gioffre was responsible for organization of the committee. He is employed as Clinton's Code Enforcement Officer, Local Health Officer, Local Plumbing Inspector, municipal 911 address officer, and Building Inspector. He serves as the town's liaison with the Planning Board, the Appeals Board, the Army Corps of Engineers, Maine's Department of Environmental Protection to include Shoreland Zoning, and the Comprehensive Planning Committee. An additional duty for the town is overseer of maintenance for town facilities. He has been involved in residential construction for most of his life. He served on the Clinton Budget Committee for five years.
- Marydee Mock was a valuable member of the committee. She was excellent with suggestions for wordsmithing the plan. Her background in management of three businesses assisted greatly in the writing of the Comprehensive Plan. Additionally, for 20 years Marydee held various military community volunteer positions, to include command leadership positions in family support organizations.
- Arnold Dale Hanscom is a lifetime citizen of Clinton. Dale brought much information and insight for the Comprehensive Plan. His membership in the Lion's Club, Methodist Church trustee projects, American Legion Finance Officer, and Snowmobile Club Trailmaster, just to name a few valuable accomplishments that lent unique insights to many aspects of the town. His years of experience in water/sewer operations brought expertise to the committee that was otherwise lacking. Dale spent over 20 years in the Maine Army National Guard where he was a commissioned officer in the Engineer branch.
- Robert St.Pierre spent several months as a member of the committee, but due to unforeseen circumstances was forced to resign. Bob had served as Vice-Chair of the Clinton Budget Committee. He was always counted on to ask leading questions in order to clarify different aspects of the plan. This was missed in the later months of the committee's meetings and deliberations.

**Meetings:** The Comprehensive Planning Committee met monthly beginning in April 2019. Normally the meetings were held the third Tuesday of the month. Meetings were open to the public and agendas and meeting notes are available. During the inventory stage, chapters were drafted and brought in for the committee to make suggestions and edits. Several meetings were held via Zoom due to COVID-19 restrictions.

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**Plan Availability.** The Comprehensive Plan is available in limited printed form. It can be accessed at the Town of Clinton website: <https://www.clinton-me.us/> as a series of PDF files. An important feature of this plan is maps that can be visually enlarged to see them in more detail.

**Outside Assistance:** This plan could not have been developed without Kennebec Valley Council of Governments (KVCOG) especially Joel Greenwood who assisted with data collection and mapping. Thanks go to Joel Waye who assisted the scribe to convert the previous 2006 plan's PDF file to Word so that it could be used in writing the new plan. Cheryl Dickey-Whitish provided much information on the history of the Town of Clinton.