

PARTICIPATE: EH Town Board Public Hearing Re: Purposes of Zoning October 5, 2023 at 2 p.m.

How to Participate in this important Public Hearing: 3 options

- To comment in person, on Oct 5, come to Town Hall by 2:00 p.m. 159 Pantigo Road, East Hampton.
- Watch live and dial-in to speak: Dial-in phone #: 351-888-6331 and [watch on local TV Channel 22](#) or [via YouTube link](#). In person or dial-in, **limit your comments to 3 minutes**.
- If you cannot join in during the hearing, or you speak & also want to add comments in writing: send via email to the Board via Town Clerk CBrennan@ehamptonny.gov prior to the 2 p.m. start.

Purpose of the Hearing ([Link to Formal Notice](#)):

- [Chapter 255](#) is the section of Town Code that covers “Land Use & Zoning.” The “Purposes” section 255-1-11 is essentially the preamble that states the overall objectives of EH Town zoning, reflecting the findings, recommendations, goals, and vision of the Town’s existing Comprehensive Plan. The Comprehensive Plan & “Purposes” set legal foundation for all the provisions in the Zoning Code.
- Earlier this year, the EH Town Board found that *“it has become necessary to assess, review and recommend changes to Chapter 255... to ensure that it is compliant with the Town’s Comprehensive Plan, including the various plans and studies which were undertaken after the Comprehensive Plan’s adoption in 2005.”*
- As part of that review/assessment, an [updated “Purposes” section has been](#) drafted and proposed for adoption. This hearing is being held to receive public comment about this.
- Contents of the “Purposes” Draft Include: A: Orderly growth * B: Proper use of land * C: Aesthetic attributes * D: Character * E: Protection of hamlets and neighborhoods * F: Housing affordability * G: Town sustainability * H: Coastal resiliency * I: Climate * J: Clean water * K: Natural resources conservation * L: Historical resources preservation * M: Open space protection * N: Safety and health * O: Density and congestion * P: Appropriate review * Q: Property values

Public Comment Framework: Many people ask how to organize comments, so here is a ‘key points’ framework, but of course, all who participate should speak to their own opinions, ideas and concerns:

1. **ADOPTION OF “PURPOSES”:** State support for the proposed draft of the “Purposes of Zoning Code” and ask the Town Board to move promptly to adopt them in full.
2. **REASONS FOR SUPPORT:** Give some reasons re: your support the amended Purposes: e.g.: they align more fully with the priorities/values of the community and the new draft reflects accurately the evolution of the EH Town Comprehensive Plan since 2005, specifically imperatives such as: protection of natural resources, community character, quality of life, sustainability of community and long-term value of our property, affordability for residents, local business owners and those who work here, protection of water quality/waterbodies, and resilience of our shorelines.
3. **OBSERVATIONS: WHAT’S ACTUALLY BEING BUILT v. “PURPOSES”:** though the draft Purposes proposed reflect crucial values and priorities, much/all of what’s actually being built here is incompatible with these stated purposes/priorities. Provide particular observations and feelings about buildings/construction/development you see around you across Town, in your neighborhood, on your block, etc.
4. **STEPS THE BOARD MUST TAKE NEXT:** Ask the Town Board to move forward promptly with a set of material/meaningful revisions to the core elements & “guts” of the zoning code, particularly house size, clearing, and coverages (aka the “dimensional allowances”) to ensure what is built on the ground actually matches up with and reflects these Purposes.
5. **WHAT ELSE RELATED TO LAND & COMMUNITY IS IMPORTANT TO YOU?:** Any other thoughts re: things you want to see happen (or not happen) related to construction/land use etc. and why.

Key References:

[Link to full Purposes 255-1-11 DRAFT document proposed for adoption:](#)
[Official Notice of the Oct 5 Public Hearing](#)