

More About the Code Update Committee

The Code Update Committee is a group of more than 30 community members who have been reviewing and discussing Town Codes for the purpose of making recommendations to the Town Board for proposed updates. A review like this had not been conducted in over ten years.

Participating members represented a diverse cross section of our local community, including members from: the Town's Planning, Zoning and Conservation Boards, Henrietta Ambulance, Henrietta Fire District, the Henrietta community at large, retail and wholesale businesses, legal community, R-H School District, Henrietta Neighbors United, building and development specialists, religious community, Rochester Realtors Association, as well as Town staff and department heads.

The existing Code was divided into 8 major categories and Committee Co-Chairs Rick Page and Peter Minotti, in consultation with Supervisor Yudelson selected eight co-chairs from the list of participants to lead those sub-committees.

Supervisor Yudelson, Mr. Page and Mr. Minotti also met with representatives of General Code Publishing, a professional service that writes, supports, reviews, and researches Codes on a national level. General Code then conducted a review and evaluation of our existing codes. Our local codes had not been reviewed in a very long time and changes in county, state and federal building, fire, and other mandated codes needed to be addressed along with a multitude of legal case decisions that affect our codes.

The Code Update Committee met on a monthly basis for over a year. They also met with local experts in specific areas of the code, and other members of the community not participating fully on the committee were invited to come in and discuss particular concerns they had.

During the sub-committee work process, existing codes from local neighboring communities as well as existing codes at the national level were reviewed and discussed.

At the completion of this process, Mr. Page and Mr. Minotti met with every department chair as well as other members of the Henrietta Town Staff to make sure all of their issues and concerns were discussed and taken into consideration. Following these individual and/or department meetings, Page and Minotti then reviewed the topics and issues brought forth by staff with the larger committee during our monthly large group meetings.

The work of the large community committee had been completed at that point. From this larger group, 10 members volunteered to assist in the final completion of all draft proposals for recommendation to the Town Board. There are well over a hundred recommendations for changes, although a large number of them are just updates to outdated terms or clarification of codes that will not result in any change in procedures.

The public hearing on Wednesday, September 7 is the first Public Hearing based on their recommendations.

The Henrietta Town Board thanks all who worked so hard on this huge undertaking and spent hundreds of hours of their time on this effort.