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1. Residential neighborhoods are feeling the impact of frequent short term rentals via Air B'n'B and VRBO among other social media outlets. The Village Code regulates single family residence short-term rentals to two two-week periods in any year. Would you use this provision to regulate Air B'n'B and VRBO? If not, why not? If so, how would you enforce this regulation?

The village has to balance the need to have short-term rental housing (which don't have much of) and the protection of the income that would go to the local inns + real estate brokers that count on tourism for their livelihood. At the same time, we need to keep the village safe and neighborhoods quiet and charming. The village law has a 2 short-term rental allowance in a six-month period, which I support. Some homeowners might count on this income and its their right to rent their house for the short-term if they desire. However, the main question here is code enforcement. How are we to police this? From a personal experience, I have a home adjacent to me that has no regard to this rule. I have simply logged on to AirBNB's website and searched for village homes, and found a number of them, it's easy to do. There are lots of rentals, comments, and information that clearly shows the history of these rentals. I think the penalties need to be substantial and the homeowners need to know the law. We need to incorporate a much different approach to enforce this village law on this specific matter and make the first time immediate penalties for violators.

2. The Village Comprehensive Plan, which helps to guide development in the Village was adopted in 2002. As adopted, the Village agreed with a key recommendation to produce a new Comprehensive Plan by 2022. What is your position on updating the Plan? And, if so, what specific recommendations would you seek to include in this update?

No, I don't support developing a new comprehensive plan. The existing plan is 20 years old and needs some sensible updating or tweaking, but the overall structure of this plan is whole. I think as the village changes, the plan can be modified from time to time of specific needs and direction that also change with time. I suggest the board addressing these issues and making changes as needed to specific issues that are current with a common sense perspective.

3. Deer tick bites often come with other co-infections like babesiosis, ehrlichiosis, tularemia, etc. In our area, there are more Lone Star ticks than deer ticks yielding greater numbers of the alphasal meat allergy & ehrlichiosis cases. We have more ticks than ever and Lyme is still the number one tick-borne infection in the country. What do you propose to control the tick disease epidemic?.

The tick problem is a big problem. I've had lyme disease and babesiosis, and I can tell you that it's no picnic. The main focus is the vehicle of the ticks and that is obviously deer. I encourage residents to use deer spray, it works, and also preserves your landscaping. In areas of the village where there might be an abundance of ticks, (dunes, nature trail, wooded public areas), we can post signs to remind people to be safe and check for ticks. The deer population is a very sensitive topic which I'll answer in the following question.

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4. The Village Preservation Society has been concerned about the growing deer population in the Village and its surrounds. Deer are a scientifically accepted vector in the spread of Lyme disease and other tick-borne illnesses. Several years ago, the Society proposed sterilization for the Village as middle ground to doing nothing or a baited cull. What do you propose to control the deer population? Do you endorse culling? Do you endorse sterilization?

The deer population is growing. Tick borne illnesses are also a growing problem. Vehicle accidents with deer are another problem. This topic is the hardest for me to answer as I feel very strongly about not taking the life of any animal, even deer. I would like to know more about a sterilization program and also the community view on a cull. Personally, I would eagerly move to educate myself with the facts and views of the issues and residents. I'm currently not for or against any particular stance on the deer.

5. Aircraft noise is a big quality of life issue for Village residents, as well as communities all over the East End. How do you propose to address aircraft noise impacts on Village residents? When legally possible, what is your position on closing the airport?

I support the airport and do not agree to close it. I think the airport is vital to allowing wealthy people easy access to our community. Homeowners that can afford to use the airport directly feed our community's economic survival. Just one large estate employs masses of local people and businesses. It's trickle down economics and I strongly believe it's working and is needed. The aircraft house needs to be regulated or monitored. The flight path patterns of the planes and helicopters needs to be in the best possible place to reduce the noise over our community.

6. What role, if any, does local zoning play in relationship to nitrogen loading and other challenges to ground and surface water purity? What will you do to monitor and protect our water resources? What is your position on dredging Town Pond?

I believe that zoning can be a friendly measure to help maintain water quality with regards to nitrogen loading. In my opinion, the nitrogen from landscaping needs to be reduced. The current state of the ponds is at an all-time low and its a product of the beautiful landscaping we display at every residence in the village. The village has set a stance on the low nitrogen septic systems which is part of the answer, but let's be clear the toilets are not being used all that much, however the landscaping is perfect 365 days a year. I would like to entertain a movement to try and reduce high nitrogen fertilizers. There is no better place to do this than the Zoning Board. As mitigation for approvals we can request that the applicant be amenable to a natural or non nitrogen plan for lawn and landscaping.

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7. The Village has long served as the cultural, commercial, educational and religious center of Town. The congestion these uses create can have a negative impact on the quality of life for Village residents. What steps would you take to mitigate this problem?

As the epicenter for educational, cultural, and religious gatherings and establishments the village has to continue to stay ahead of the problem. I believe that the local police and traffic control do a good job. With large gatherings no matter what for, traffic and parking are the main issues. As a village, we should use all assets to help these establishments accomplish their event or operations. Good ideas in logistics are needed to use alternate parking locations, and detours that make sense and keep traffic moving. We need to be fully aware and listen to the needs of the residents that reside in close proximity to these centers, however take into consideration that some of these inconveniences are part of the charm of living in the areas in question.

8. Widening the Stephen Hands Path trestle, has long been on the VPS LIRR wish list. Renovating that trestle would route truck traffic around the Village, particularly as trucks heading north on both North Main St and Accabonac Rd, are headed into the northern reaches of Town. What will you do to address this issue for Village residents?

Widening the SHP Trestle would be wonderful. A renovation would cause short-term traffic issues, but they are just that, short-term. If vehicles can't access their destinations from SHP then they will need to use Main Street, Newtown Lane, North Main, Route 114, and Long Lane. All these alternative routes are on commercial roads that are made to accommodate any vehicle and concentration of traffic. It's not a perfect answer, but short-term projects don't last forever. I'd recommend this work not be done in the summer months.

9. Our communities are particularly vulnerable to coastal erosion, sea level rise and extreme weather events. While Village beaches are included in the Town-wide coastal area resilience study, we are very much an add-on. Would you have the Village fund a study of Village dunes and beaches to assess their condition? What use would you make of the results of such a study?

I love our beaches and promise to protect them as much as possible, however, no I don't support spending excessive funds on a dune study. As long as our zoning continues to keep the dunes preserved and any man made alteration is not a detriment to the dunes, I'm a very strong believer in leaving the dunes alone. Mother Nature will always do what she wants and the migration and movement of sand and the dunes is something we cannot control. Hurricanes, super-storms, and nor'easters are unpredictable and impossible to forecast. Work to the dunes should only be done to limit any and all harm to the dunes from humans. Let's leave Mother Nature alone and save the money.

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10. With McMansions scattered in neighborhoods with more modest homes, how should neighborhood character be treated within the zoning code? Is it desirable to achieve a balance and how would you do so under zoning?

Character of the neighborhood is hard to determine, I believe our zoning code holds homeowners to strict (maybe too strict) guidelines. I believe it's the homeowners right to build what they wish, as long as it meets the code and regulations of the rules set forth. If a variance is required, the ZBA has shown its ability to preserve any overbuilding requests. Replacing old modest homes with new larger homes is a direction that we can't stop. However, keeping the character of the neighborhood should be accomplished through our strict code and ZBA.

11. What businesses do you think contribute the most to the economy of the Village? What steps would you take to encourage these businesses?

I believe that all businesses contribute to the vitality of the village. We just need businesses to actually occupy the stores. Having empty storefronts is an embarrassment. The village has an obligation to support these businesses as much as possible. We need to treat these shop owners like royalty. I'd like to see more food establishments. We need to ease up on the parking restrictions for variances to the commercial district and at the same time expand the available parking.

12. Village residents remain concerned about the way PSEG-LI commandeered the public right of way to replace utility poles with larger, more toxic versions of what had been there for 60 years, allegedly to strengthen storm resistance, when it is clear that burying the lines is the proper solution. How will you negotiate the 'monster pole' issue? Please be specific.

The monster utility poles make me sick. It's an embarrassment that these were ever allowed to be installed. We need to find a solution and bury the lines, and to go farther I'd like to bury all the lines in the entire village. I know it's a dream, but it's possible with the right people in charge. I desperately want to put together a team that will develop a plan so my children can have a wire free village. To be specific, the village can't create another problem on an adjacent street to fix the poles on another. We need to get the wires in question buried asap. There are many residents that have collected masses of information, I'd love to work with all of them, I know a solution is possible and I look forward to this challenge.

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12. Enforcement of laws that govern inappropriate signage, contractor parking on roadsides that rut the grasses and kill native plants, have a direct impact on Village residential life. How will your administration work to better enforce existing regulations to prevent this type of degradation to neighborhood character? What will you do to ensure that the Public Works Department is responsive to repairing this damage?

The village has to work with local contractors to reduce the ruts in the grass due to parking. These ruts must be required to be fixed in a reasonable time frame. This is a product of code enforcement, upon issuance of a building permit this issue must be addressed if it isn't already. If the contractor or home owner doesn't correct the problem, then the village DPW workers should fix/repair and a fine be issued to the homeowner.

13. Many Village streets have very poor drainage, especially in the western area. What will you do to address this?

Drainage issues can be remedied by regular maintenance and removing debris that is covering drain covers. I would hope there is a memo of these locations where drainage is a problem and the village can work towards new/larger drainage wells. We need a prioritized list of these locations and address them individually. There could very well be more than one problem and also more than one solution.

14. What is your approach to public participation in government?

I feel that the public has every right to contribute to all decisions made. The elected officials are just a voice of the community members. I encourage creating committees comprised of knowledgeable residents to help direct the village. There could be committees comprised of 4-6 people sharing their ideas for the beaches, parks, business district, etc. I believe the residents would love to have a bigger part in government. I move for open email and office hours for all officials. I would like to promote as much open communication as possible with the public. The homeowners need to be aware of everything, it's their village.