

Question 30

Open-Ended Response

A good comprehensive survey which asked appropriate questions.

A little bit here and a little bit there. Don't concentrate on one thing. Make Copake beautiful and safe.

A vibrant "culture"...to attract new residents, investment and visitors, and to retain those growing up in the region --is not just plays and art galleries. It includes restaurants, shops, crafts, walking tours, historic preservation, parks and the outdoor recreation activities for which Copake has been blessed with such natural beauty! Best wishes and thanks!

again, please learn how to turn off the alarm at 3am

allowing a building complex of apartments in the center of town will be a disaster! and have a huge negative impact

annual cap on escalating property taxes

As part of the comprehensive planning process, thought needs to be given to maintenance of core services such as fire, EMS, police and DPW in the next 10 - 15 year window. Staffing and budgeting to maintain the current delivery style of such service will be significantly impacted during that period and needs to be addressed. Building and Fire Codes for both existing and new construction need to be addressed with a proactive approach to provide a positive impact through code enhancement and better enforcement to support personal and public safety.

As the economy tanks, people's yards look like junkyards. Depressing for the community.

Believe existing planning regulations are more than adequate. Do not wish to spend town money to revamp. Spend to clarify and enforce.

bring back a market like Sonya Langdenhurst's. bring back a movie theater. use the old school for an artistic community.

Clean up days, planting days for beautification of Copake. More community events. Too much animosity in this town. Bring Dems and Reps together, weekenders and "locals". No senior housing - mixed housing. We need to grow what we have.

Clean up the Hamlet of Copake - don't allow buildings and closed down / run down shops to just sit here. Develop a town pool and a community center! These interventions would keep me and my children in the community - otherwise we may leave town.

Clean up the Hamlet of Copake - don't allow buildings and closed down/run down shops to just sit there. Develop a town pool @ the park and a community center! These interventions would keep me and my children in the community - otherwise we may leave town.

Concerns of dictatorship at the THCS (super). Couples should be given two surveys to complete.

Consider the second homers since they pay such a large portion of the tax. More facilities available on week-ends.

Considering the economy; why are towns & schools not at least holding or reducing budgets; we have to make do with less; show us the same consideration with holding or reducing taxes; we have no choice with job losses and frozen wages, no benefits locally. This forces us out of area and/or into foreclosure. Personally, tax increase of \$1500 in 2 years too much; I've had no raise in over 4 years!

Continue to engage community in its growth & development. Solicit community members involvement. Provide updates, bulletins, etc... Encourage local communication & participation in development and government.

Copake and West Copake were lively agricultural & vacation communities. While times may be different the natural assets which made that possible remain & are the area's greatest advantage.

Copake has so much potential and it needs to be a better downtown there is nothing in Copake- why is that

Copake is just next on the list for communities in need of direction and support in NY state. Although this survey is a great idea, communities like ours all over the state are in such need of direction and have similar problems. We all need and want to live in Copake, work in Copake, raise families in Copake but without programs in place to stimulate growth and attract more light industry/local sustainable businesses that can provide this for the people and help with the tax base to support and sustain controlled growth, this won't happen. There must be localized and balanced growth with as much help from grants/federal assistance/shovel ready projects, etc. as possible to relieve the tax burden on the citizens of the area. To own a decent sized home in Copake and be taxed almost 10,000 dollars/year, send our children to private school in another state/work in another state is utterly ridiculous and just about unaffordable. We get very little from the town of Copake, other than maintenance of the roads. All shopping is done in MA. Every effort must be made to relieve the tax burden from the homeowners or everyone will sell and leave. Let's stop continuous reassessing of the properties in Copake or the middle class will soon be nonexistent in the area.

Copake lake has become unmanageable with the water skiers and jet skis. The shore line is a hodge podge of abandoned ducks and docks, the town of Copake should take over the management of the lake and charge a fee for dock space

Copake needs to be part of the 21st century. They need to add businesses & recreational facilities, outdoor pool in park to attract young people & second home buyers. Needs strong cultural programs. Need to bring money into Copake.

Copake needs to encourage activities that promote the scenic beauty of the area. Building of the storage site on Route 23 was a CRIME. Look at Chatham, NY, Great Barrington, MA and Lenox, MA. I spend my money there because facilities and scenery are nicer. Town of Copake offers nothing but run down store fronts, bad food, and gasoline.

cOPAKE SHOULD HAVE MORE REPRESENTATION ON THE NEW "HILLSDALE" PARK, AS IT IS IN OUR TOWN. We are probably losing tax revenue. The same is true of the new library (probably)

creek flooding should be addressed. homes are threatened each heavy rain

Develop ways for "weekenders" to contribute to town. Free garbage day was great. Develop tax-paid garbage pick-up of state if state outlaws burning barrels.

Develop the Route 22 corridor

development of modern store on Center Hill road or on Church Street, new use for General Store

didn't we do this a few years ago

do a confidential survey of the twelve members of the town meeting. what is their party registration? does it match the copake voter breakdown? do they consider themselves moderate mildly liberal/conservative, or strongly liberal/conservative, etc.? we didn't want a whorl of alinsky-trained activists dominating this plan develop. hillsdale made awful decisions, and our own scenic process was poorly handled.

Do not televise town meetings. It will only extend town meetings. It brings out people that would not otherwise come to a town meeting, these wackos just want to be on TV. Subjects that could be voted on at one meeting will now take months to rectify.

do not want to see large housing projects in town

Do you have any driving care for seniors in bad weather? or home delivery of food in bad weather?

Don't let the housing project go through or there may be another house for sale in Copake.

Don't over-reach in expenses. Encourage small farms. We have some of the best land. Use it to grow things.

Downtown area should be improved. Encourage new businesses for vacant buildings. Side walk areas, Create zoning & building laws to make town more historic or have a more common appearance. Clean up appearance of old buildings.

Downtown Copake (clock area) is an insult and an absolute disgrace!! The transfer station is more attractive. Start with enforcing town codes to clean it up. Assemble a committee designated to addressing the down town slum -- soon!. Don't wait another year.

Elected officials should respond to the will of the people not special interests or corrupt politicians like Patterson, Silver and whoever is the Senate majority leader at the moment

Encourage more summer programs for 13-18 year olds

Encourage tax breaks for local volunteers such as emts & firemen

Encourage ways to include weekenders in planning. Issues of local employment and youth facilities are important, of course. But it's also important to improve recreational facilities that bring second homeowners and recreational tourists with their dollars to Copake. We can't compete on culture with the Berkshires. But our vast hiking and biking resources on public land should be promoted more.

Encouraging town members helping those that are less fortunate. Dog & cat shelter -- maybe use land near transfer station.

farmers market

Find a way to include all town residents in strategic planning. Encourage more interaction between weekend and year round residents. Encourage volunteers. Especially professionals who may be able to provide needed pro bono services such as legal, engineering, design as well as meals on wheels, road site beautification, etc.

Follow example of South Egremont, Lenox, Stockbridge, etc. - Get tourists by looking to restore old buildings. Post large signs that can be seen by a driver about events - tractor pull, sports, etc.

for copake to realize and to keep young people and families the focus needs to be attracted jobs and businesses

good job with survey.

Great survey - Great ideas - Develop Copake responsibly - with GREEN philosophy utmost priority.

High taxes are our primary concern and the lack of information for weekend people and/or second home owners who are not represented fairly in the town.

Hmm, I never before paid so much (property taxes) and received so little (no street lights, no public water/sewer, library, etc)

how about cleaning up Jims auto body. It is a disgrace when you enter town from the south, It doesn't say much for the first impression of our town

How fulltime residence will be able to afford living in small towns like Copake in the future. Both from the cost of living side and also the job side.

I am concerned about the Roe Jan above Robinson Pond as it brings nutrients into the Lake. I would like to see a viable general store. I would like Langdonhurst to reopen (but it won't) and Random Harvest as well.

I am new to the community and am concerned about maintaining the integrity of the local environment by over-development or choosing larger industry over small business. I feel that encouragement of local products will be key to the successful growth of the community overall. Also, in the age of telecommuting and more home-based offices and businesses as people leave the larger cities in hope of a more manageable lifestyle, I am concerned that there will be an increase in the number of applications for variances in the local building codes as people build more houses. Community development is, of course a good thing... but *sensible* community development is even better. Please don't turn this rural paradise into a suburban wasteland!

I believe Copake is an ideal retirement place and place for high quality environmental living where we have enough amenities for a civilized life - food, pharmacy, bank, emergency medical services, nearby accessible police services, volunteer fire service, small hotel, churches and a beautiful scenic area with plenty of lakes and streams for other more specialized services easily accessible. Don't spoil it by developing it. Thanks for letting us give an opinion. recreation -- surrounded by 3 larger towns (Hudson, Millerton & Great Barrington) for

I believe that survival of the area depends on tourism and vacation homes - bed and breakfast - but this could only work when there is an attraction. Something Copake is missing - The town is practical but is not cute. And it does not attract anybody, unless they need to eat pizza or go to Diner or put gas in car and that does not attract tourism.

I do not think that the Housing Resources project is Copake's best interest-- but I would not object to development in the field "behind" Copake. It is a natural place for the town center to grow. I would not like to see development on the Copake "flats". I think that the revitalization of Copake's downtown is an urgent need. The Town Board should address it.

I feel it is very important to preserve the country setting, the land conservancy and the history of the area. I feel building up the area too much would take away from the warm country setting which is why I love living in the area.

I feel there is some selective enforcement of codes: regulations

I feel this town cannot support a housing development. Our land, environment, water will be jeopardized. Farmers are a mainstay of our community, we cannot lose any more agriculture.

I have been in Copake all my life. Part time for 4 months a year, increased to 6 months and permanently for the last 14 years. What I have seen is as follows. The list below shows what was here and what has been new. Gone are: Dentist, sporting goods store, video store (2 of them), freezer, tanning booth (2), nail saloon, 3 bars & 1 liquor store, 2 gas stations (1 left), phone company office and garage, 3 small restaurants (Carousel/Hub, Copake coffee shop, eatery in Pharmacy), Funeral Home (moved), Movie theater, plant and garden shop, limber yard, farm supply store and tractor repair, 2 grocery stores, there were 9 summer camps (3 left), train station, bus company with stop in Copake, appliance store. New: 2 eateries, 1 additional bank, 1 new Post Office, 1 manufacturing facility, 1 gas station and convenience store, 2 car repairs and body shops, 1 antique car dealership. What brings business to Copake? Catamount ski area, the camps, the trailer parks, and the SUMMER AND WEEKEND RESIDENTS. Without the weekenders and camps, how many of the above will survive? What brings business to Copake? The Post Office, the Banks, two eateries, 1 gas station and convenience store and pharmacy. We all say Copake is place of rural charm and a farming area. HOW MANY FARMS ARE LEFT? The regulations imposed by the town on building have stopped expansion of business and the weekenders. I do applaud the efforts of the e-mailers on Copake Politics but it does not go to the expansion of a town that needs new revitalization. For the first time in my life, I am starting to think like a Republican. less regulation. We need businesses that brings a labor force for the local residents. Whether it be through tax incentives, grants, etc. People move out because there is no work. A good percentage of the local people with their own small businesses work as plumbers, carpenters, house cleaners, snow plowers, gardeners, electricians, etc. Many of the local businesses employ more than 5 people. A few employ several more. How many people does a farm employ? How many local residents make their living working on a farm? Farm workers generally are not local and many who do send money out of the country. I have no objection with this. They are good workers and deserve to earn money. But all I hear is FARMING COMMUNITY. The Church Street Deli probably employs more local people than one farm. It is time to smell the roses.

I love Copake and the surrounding countryside. Let's avoid the trap of encouraging economic development of whatever type, by whatever means. Conserve and enhance the qualities that make lifelong residents love the place and newcomers to make it their home (and or home-away-from-home).

i love my town

i pretty like the area about like it is! sorry to see so many outsiders moving in

I still hope to build on my property and live there. Appreciate your work and effort. I have no e-mail address. Please mail if possible. Thank you. DG

i think the housing issue needs a closer look- placement, restoration, avoiding farm land and improving existing to accommodate affordable. the roe Joan building next to the new library has great possibilities

i think the speed limit of 30 mph is too high for my street(miles rd) it is a short street with quite a curve in it. Children and others walk along it, especially in summer. It is also a dog walking street. 20 mph would be more like it. It is really only for local traffic, thru traffic can go straighter and faster on the 344 spur(to the dept deli, the falls. etc

I think there should be a newsletter advising us as to what is happening in our government

I want to emphasize how harmful I believe it is to our town that several people are just sitting on buildings that others could purchase and develop into small businesses that would contribute greatly to our community. This is occurring in both Copake and Copake Falls and it is really holding us back. It is not my desire to be a tourist mecca, but it would be very nice to have a decent grocery store and bakery and there are places that could be developed into lovely outdoor cafes or coffee shops but are just going to waste. How can we encourage the sale and development of these properties to improve our town, without infringing on the rights of the owners?

I would just stress again the need to preserve and improve both the farmland and ridgelines to maintain what makes Copake special. Every decision concerning job creation, business development, affordable housing initiatives' etc. should be measured against preserving those two unique assets first and foremost' before any decision is made. Once lost they cannot be restored. Also, resist pressure from outside developers, and special interest groups. Their interests and the towns are oftentimes mutually exclusive. They're not out to serve Copake. They're motivation is to exploit the towns assets for their own profitability.

I would like to see copake develop along scenic,ruralilnes. those moderations which do not take away from the rural nature of the town would be welcomed. those things which would cause loss of open land,loss of scenic beauty would not be as well recived.

I would like to see the town make it easier for building permits. The growth is here and we need to accommodate it - housing - business - Copake discourages development. You lose money when people have to go elsewhere for services - and taxes are really a high problem for property owners. If you want to retain open lands, don't punish the landowner -- taxes!!!

I would not like to see the center of Copake developed, as this would ruin the view and character of the town.

I'd like to see Copake emerge as an example of how a town can come together and be unique in bringing the right kind of prosperity that makes us all proud of the quality of life this town could offer.

If only existing properties at Copake Lake could be preferred over taking existing woodland for new, expensive dwellings.

Hard to see clear cutting along Birdittill Road. Birches cut!

if only metro north could one day go on far as copake falls

If taxes would not be raised I'd love for there to be certain actions mentioned to take place. However if taxes would increase in order to have some of these actions, my answers would have been different. The point here is that taxes are high as it is.

ileagal dumping

I'm concerned about Casino's "farm" and how he has defied Copake by doing what he wants. There is no indication he plans to give up his determination to bring demolition debris to Copake from the Bronx, grind it and either sell or bury it on his property. He's doing a lot out of sight of the community and against court orders. He has an employee on the town board.

Instead of figuring out more ways to be involved in more things, the town needs to concentrate on maintaining what exists and controlling spending so that the people of Copake can continue to live here.

It was pretty more interesting town in1988 when i got here

its critical to keep school/ property taxes low, to encourage business investment and growth

it's easy to agree with most of the golas here but what is really practical for the town to be planning? Surely we should focus ono the do- able especially in todays economy. the future of copake is probly linked to tourism

Just that none of our codes or laws should be used against any one person or business in a vindictive manner the rules should apply to all evenly across the board not pick and choose whom to go after

Keep the housing project away. Do not allow it to be built. Keep the area rural.

Lack of maintenance of roads extending off Copake Lake, especially during winter months which denies access to community residents and produces dangerous conditions for residents such as inaccessibility by emergency services vehicles and the fire department.

Lack of public transportation. Train and bus service has had a negative impact on our community. I have watched 20 businesses close in Copake of which not one has been replaced.

Let's try to make Copake a destination folks would like to come to visit, spend time and money - and fall in love with to eventually settle here. Now how do we pay for all these good things>

limit camp developement, especially the trailer-style type like Camp Weebaka.

limit new social services that raise taxes on local residents

little things add charm. flowers no speed traps on church street two friends will never visit again

local government does not seem responsive to what is going on in the community leadership is lacking. what has been accomplished in the last 2 years, regardless of political party affoiliation

Local towns must work together to minimize budget expenditures and supply a better quality of life for residents. New sources of revenue such as wind and solar must be explored.

Look at some of the things being done by the town of Hardwick, Vermont in terms of supporting local agriculture and creating new business opportunities by doing that. Regarding housing -- I am not convinced that the existing housing stock is not able to satisfy housing needs of the population. While there may be a need for senior housing, including assisted living, I am not convinced that the town of Copake is the right place for that. I don't think it has the services necessary to support that kind of housing.

Loss of farmland sold to developers!

lower taxes

Lower the road on Church Street in Copake. Am always scraping bottom of my car going in and out of post office and bank.

loyal gov't

Make garbage disposal available for weekenders by having facilities open on Sundays

Many church, bank & businesses have driveway problems. Too many police officers for such a small town -TOO EXPENSIVE

Many of the items where I answered "no opinion" are programs that are provided by church and other groups. If government gets involved then they supply funds and materials. The object of this plan is to provide program and services without the used of tax dollars. People who are on fixed income are all too often forgotten - by cutting costs for the many suggested items helps us seniors who are also disabled.

Many of the local community ideas can be housed or consolidated in the Roele//Jansen School Property, including quite a few of the suggested activities for young people; recreation; arts/cultural center; consolidation of Police/Fire/Rescue squad services, etc.

Many of the topics above viewed favorably in this response depend on an understanding and appreciation of scale. They assume that Copake's population will not change dramatically over the next twenty years.

May I stress no over-development of Copake. Stay as is -- rural, quiet & wonderful living as i see it!!!!

My biggest concern is in reference to the affordable housing project that has been proposed in Copake. Where will these people work? What benefits (other than perhaps short term) are in it for Copake? What happens after the first 5 years when there are no more subsidies? Please let us not have another Philmont or Blix Towers of Hudson in Copake.

My family has two pieces of property on Robinson Pond. Although we use our house only on weekends, we'd like to see more shops & restaurants in Copake. We often go to Millerton, Great Barrington & Hillsdale to eat & shop. We'd like to stay local and support the businesses in town, but downtown is just not very appealing. It is almost embarrassing having visitors to our house because they have to drive by old delapetated buildings & run down stores. The homes around Copake Lake & Robinson Pond are beautiful, the scenery is beautiful & I'd like to see downtown beautiful as well.

Naturally, we all want the most "stuff" for the least \$\$\$\$. Since we do not live full time at Copake Lake, our interest may differ from full-timers.

need a young adult/teen rec. center make copake look pretty for visitors-but follow thru,dont let it just be a look.

Need noise ordinance.

Need to fight and continue to fight against polluters like Mr. Casino. The beauty and natural resources belong to our future. We should not waste it. Do not turn Copake into Long Island. I am working to leave the congestion and overcrowding. Thank you for doing the survey.

Needs more thoughts and commentes and ideas about service related businesses in town and hamlet

Needs: truck farms(gardening of fruits, vegetables, farm for flowers windmills- "green supporting business and activities

Needs: truck farms (gaardening of fruits, vegetables, farms for flowers, windmills, "green" supporting businesses and activites.

no

no

no

no

No

NO

No

no

no

no e-mail

no just keep the police force lower property taxes

no low income housing

No other housing except for senior citizens. We have loys of homes & farms available but nowhere for older folks to retire to. Smaller homes in a community living area.? Cell tower desperately needed! Can't call out or in for emergency. How about Roe Jan School for seniors? small houses in back around & ass't living inside

No, would just like to compliment whoever put together this very comprehensive survey. Excellent.

noise,uderage drinking at copake lake especially southwest colony lack of sidewalks or room for walking around the lake
none

None

None of the questions explained that most of the choices come with a financial cost (i.e., higher taxes).

none. copake is a quiet little village,that while the exeption of cell phone service needs only a decent place for guest to stay overnight

Not that I can think of now! This survey seems very comprehensive.

on RT.22 the project Mr. sal has started looks as though it would make a wonderful farm stand area as well as having the ability to support livestock. whats up? is the town making him pay for his past mistakes

Planning should be realistic and not exceed the ability of Copake's tax base to cover expenses while at the same time local and county managers should access every state and federal monies available for the preferred types of development.

planning+zoning boards are to be helpful to guide projects,not tie them up for months/years.

Planning should be realistic and not exceed the ability of Copake's tax base to cover expenses while at the same time local and county managers should access every state and federal monies available for the preferred types of development.

please keep copake rural

please keep our "small town" just that.too many "weekenders want city convences but that would take away from being a country,small town

Please protect the quality of what we have while promoting development & beautification of all down town areas.

Please stay as you are. You are good at it. If you wish to see the changes suggested here, go to the city & see these changes of once fine communities turn to slums, filth & high crime & deves.

please stop the housing project in copake it will change the town so dramatically it will make me move and drive real estate valles down in addition the town can not support these many houses

Property taxes!!! unreasonably high.

put lights on street -- limit speed signs to 30 mph.

Quite satisfied with the rural area. Surely protecteion of water supplies and sewer system would be good. People libing year round and raising a family would want the big city facilities. Therefore the above two classes differ. There will be some taxes which i wouldn't benefit.

realestate taxes[town and school] for retirees who own weekend + vacation + seasonal momes have increased to the point where it is too expensive to continue to own a second home away from the big cities. do you plan to drive out us senior citizens who purchased vacation homes many years ago,when taxes where resanable?

Reduce police vehicle count from 5 to 2.

refuse building project across from park. too wet. too many units in too close a space. if railroad ties on edge of aera sink w/in 5years,what will buildings do when water is removed [like oil removal causing cave in in texas] mold also if water remains.

reiterate the need for WIFI

Right now this town has nothing! We need businesses so our children can work. And entertainment so they don't go elsewhere. Zoning needs to back off certain things. (Example: Deli being built too high) That's petty BS and needs to stop.

robert.meistorepedountzmeister.com

rofliff jamsem school could be used to house to the elderly for seniors and others

Safety, possible increasing crime rate. Also, I am strongly against the proposed housing project.

Several questions hint at the housing development. I'm not intrinsically opposed, but I would like to see appropriate design that could put Copake on the map for innovation, not for the conflict and/or poor development choices made.

Sidewalks are a mess put pavers in which will add a little more charm and it serves a functional purpose while eliminating liability.

Since the overlay came into effect this town has started to die - go to the ridge limit - redo the zoning. Let the town come back to life.

so many of htese wishes are tax items. please can't stand just so much.

Some of the access roads off of copake lake should be better developed. For example Pine St and Elm St. The width restriction for maintaining these two roads should be changed. We have great difficulty in going down theses roads throughout the seasons. Can someone finally help us with this?

some of the board members are full of hot air, promise the world and give nothing. Replace 2 and get something done!
some type of entertainment for the young adults- keep them safe from drugs and alcohol. dances, golf, pool, bowling league

Sorry I didn't receive this in the mail, so i never filled out. Thank you for all the hard work on this! Seems like you covered everything in this survey

Specificall encourage a variety of restaurants to come to Copake..good quality restaurans NOT fast food types HOUSES OF WORSHIP> include within Copake, all denominations including those representing the Jewish faith

Speed limit should be 35 MPH on RTE 7A -- not just on a portion; change 55 MPH on 7A in West Copake 7A to 7.

stop businesses such as storage facility just bulid by taconic

STOP THE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT AND THINGS LIKE IT!!! The town needs to take a strong, unified stand against development which challenge our exisiting rural community. Let's fix what we already have, use the resources already around us and not be short-sighted.

Stop the housing project - should not happen - overdevelopment will ruin the nature of Copske.

Stop the housing project!

Stop the housing project. more frequent drop off for recycling. increase recreation opportunities.

stopping the housing project & land development

Strongly opposed to Housing Resources & Cascino projects.

support a local newspaper

support a local newspaper! - Copake Chronicle, The Columbia Paper, etc. Thank you for your work. This seems practical, careful & inclusive!

Support for our churches ie: they supply most of the entertainment/dining events...we need to support them with our patronage!

Support RoeJan Young at Hearter - with annual contribution-as those many years with the exception of 2009

support-encourage dont mean the same as sponsoring and paying for.

Tax referendum for funds & grants, stimulus monies, consider issuing bond

Taxes are out of coontrol forcing young families like myself to leave the area. No pre-schools that are effective. No day care with openings that are licensed.

taxes- I did not see a question asking how concerned citizens were about funding these programs and "encouragements"

taxes! all improvements must be met with a large enough population grows the improvements will.

Taxpayers cannot afford to subsidize social reforms. The highways and parks are alot already.

Thank you for all the work so far that has made Copake the beautiful place it is today.

Thank you for conducting the survey.

Thanks for asking my opinion. Controlling the deer population.

thanks for doing this

The "vision" must consider not only locals but those weekenders and summer people who, if you look at the current tax base, will be paying for most of it.

The 122 acres around Town Hall should be agriculture forever dedicated to farm education/or used as a town park

The areas around Copake Lake are clearly Vacation/Vacation Home oriented. This aspect should be preserved with better code enforcement and general systems support (water, electricity, sewer, garbage, etc..). We contribute to the tax and general business base but in essence get limited return as our children don't attend the schools and a lot of the services (ex. beutification programs) don't seem to extend to the lake area. In general the Copkae Lake Conservation Spociety maintains the lake and the shoreline areas through donations and club member support but this can only go so far.

the citizens of Copake are being hurt by the boards politics in every subject covered in this survey. we can't make progress without educated, dedicated leadership

the cost of living makes it possible for me to live here,but the lack of jobs means a daily commute to dutchess county. finding any daycare,never mind qyility daycare,for my children is not difficult,it is impossible.cable prius are higher here than many neighboring areas,as are internet prices.

the downtown is so unattractive no buissneses would want to move there.

The fact that the politicians in this town bicker and argue constantly is ridiculous. They aren't in kindergarten. While everyone's opinion should be heard, they need to come together for the best interest of this community. They need to take a hard look at where, and how, our tax money is being spent. And a quick note on Community Day. It seems to be bringing in less people every year. While the planning committee worked hard on organizing this day, I think they should look into new things to draw people in. Maybe not having it on Fathers Day weekend would help. There are plenty of other options as to when it can be held.

The health of the environment ie water, air, soil is the basis of good growth. Visual environment is important too stch as our sense of order and being a "good neighbor".

The proposed housing development in Copake is badly designed. It should be focused on the other side of the field along Center Hill Rd.7A and not up against the existing dwellings.

The Roeliff Jansen School should be put to some use, but be kept in case of population increase and another school might be needed.

the rural settings of copake attracted us to the area 30 years ago. however as we age the need for appropriate housing for the senior population and transportation are becoming a major concern- senior housing both public and private and transportation are a must for most seniors

The Scenic Corridor was a great start, I would like to see it expanded. I am worried about all the streams that have had their flood plains filled in (in particular Cascino's) and think we should protect flood plains so we don't flood the town every spring.

The school property on RT 22 needs to be reused. It was a waste of taxes to build a new school and not sell the old property.

The snow plows along Lake View Drive (Copake Lake) keep carving off slices of our lawns, and dump gravel run-off due to rain down the banks. Also, unclear who is responsible for maintaining Elm St (up the hill).

The survey is very complete.

The total disregard for Sunday morning worship by the town and school calendar is an assault on our heritage and should be stopped.

The town has a lot of potential. we hope for the right type of development - nicer, more upscale stores, restaurants, etc. - on the order of Great Barrington, Millbrooke, etc.

The town has to many committes. There's a committee here for everything lets get a committee to clean up the junkyard as you come off of rt 22. It gives a great impression of this town. Lets get some new businesses here, there is absolutly nothing here. to keep anybody staying here

The town is slowly dying. Why? Who in town benefits from having empty stores & restaurants? Who is it that wants the town as a private preserve with no activity or life?

the town needs to go green, and we must have a different telephone company. and taconic shones should be taken over by the town. we here are drowning in dues and then to pay the town taxes also. somones really making out not the senior citz-area people are being forced out of our community after all we all own our homes

the town of copake should allow gravel banks, a natural resource instead of importing from other areas, The Roe-Jan school should be utilized instead of new building, i.e the library town hall parks, etc

The way some of the questions are asked, particularly those concerning housing (which seem to relate to the Copake Green Project). Makes the survey appear weighted to address particular adjendas not specifically mentioned in the survey.

The way to attract jobs is to improve the quality of education. We need a Columbia Grown campaign: see <http://www.berkshiregrown.org>. We need an open government with complete details of meetings posted online - all notices, contracts, letters, bid lists - everything that goes by the Town board should go online in full. The wildcard in this community is second home owners. Get a bigger share of their hearts and wallets by getting them more engaged in the community and everyone will be better off. More cheap recreation like winter ice skating. Full steam ahead on the bike trail. Horse trails in RoeJan Park. If 2nd home owners are here 20 weekends a year, get them here 30!

There are many questions where one didn't totally agree or disagree with a question but were forced to answer untruly. i.e. protect ridgelines - Some houses would be fine, but not a multitude. I was forced to answer disagree.

there are to many people involved in the town government today for their own personal adjends and not for the best interest of everyone who lives here.

This is a community that my family has purchased property in for the long haul - while we very much want to see it flourish, we are very concerned that it is not exploited and compromised by greed-based proposals that may appear fiscally attractive, but ultimately have irreversible negative impacts.

This is a duplicate of Town Survey done 5 yrs. ago - People want Copake rural and want zoning enforced!!

this is a wonderful and thorough survey

This twon cannot afford a sewer system that will not serve a lot of the town tax payers. This twon does not need a police force. We have now sheriff's, state police, state park police, it looks like a police convention now. The town has no place for 4-wheel or dirt bike riders, but they pay insurance, registration fees, but can't ride the trails or anywhere and the bike riders don't pay anything but are allowed everywhere even in the lanes of traffic where they are a constant hazard.

To provide housing and employment requires foresight and intelligence -- not greed. Retain the plus factors of this area and not let greed business corporations raid our environment and deplete our resources ---example of what that housing project wanted -- THAT'S NOT THE WAY TO GO!

To provide housing and employment requires foresight and intelligence - not greed. Retain the plus factors of this area and not let greedy business corporations raid our environment and deplete our resources -- example of what that housing project wanted -- That's not the way to go!

Town park needs better playground for children

town shared support the library

town should take over condition of roads in communities around copake lake. I pay taxes and do not receive services

we live in copake and thoroughly enjoy the peace and quiet but it has no identity. create a reason for visitors to come and spend money in our town and buy our homes. we need recreation, culture, restaurants

Unbridled development and taxes, taxes, taxes. Consider: when property values increase the tax burden does not necessarily need to also increase.

use \$ to restore business district; enforce town codes on landlords to clean up their property; use roe jan as a housing complex or collage

very complete

waste and over spending at school. one example is leaving large lights on ball field on all night long too much spent on sports and education is not as it should be

we bought here 25 years ago, when my son was at harvard. Now he and 3 of his buddies have built nice homes around copake lake. i feel we have helped to raise level here

We camped here from 1983 to 1988 when we bought land and built our home and moved permanently in 1994. We moved here because of the rural and country atmosphere, reminding us of our childhoods on the Eastern Long Island Suffolk County.

We camped here from 1983 to 1988 when we bought land and built our home and moved permanently in 1994. We moved here because of the rural and country atmosphere, reminding us of our childhoods on the Eastern Long Island, Suffolk County

We don't need to build & maintain more buildings. We should have theater programs & music at the THCS on the Beauty Highway. On another note, I feel that people making rules for this community should be obeying them as well. They should comply with regulations and not bend them for their own self-interest!!!

we have a seasonal dwelling (no heat). Not our main residence. we should not have to pay school taxes since we pay them at our main residence. There should be tax break for senior citizens and seasonal dwellers thank you

we have copake, and want to do whatever we can do to preserve its beauty + country feeling. please beware of malls + over development-you can never duplicate the beauty you have in copake!

we have too much government.

We need sanitation pick up, we shouldn't have to pay separately for that, clean up roadside always has tons of litter from McDonalds and 7/11

We need to anticipate and prepare for much greater sustainability in our community, as well as coordination with other towns.

We need to develop jobs and businesses.

We need to encourage business. To do this we must be business friendly. To be business friendly we must get rid of overly restrictive zoning.

We need to support a town newspaper now that the Independent has folded.

What are other local towns such as Lakeville, Salisbury, Egremont and Shasron doing? These are destination towns with beautiful thriving downtown areas and beautiful attractive homes. How have these towns achieved this? Copake should emulate where appropriate (zoning, business development, downtown, etc.)

when we did come to copake, yrs ago, copake was a thriving town stores movie house general store etc. now? you need boots to cross the water after a rain storm

while zoning is good to an extent it should be able to do what they wish with their property so long as it doesn't effect the health or safety of their neighbor.

why are 2nd home owners not given an opportunity to vote on local issues? My family has owned the same home on copake lake for 65 yrs! believe we earned the right to vote

Why hasn't the town of Copake taken the lead in beautification of its main street area? Why not set the example instead of allowing for deterioration? They have an economic committee. Use it please. The same for the historical significance. This should be front center for attention. Signage in main town area for history.

would enjoy acn vines for older people. enhance sociability within the town. should be encouraged.

Would like to see more support for local businesses. They may not be pretty by everyone's definition, but they are providing jobs and tax dollars. Some have been here a long time. We can't afford to lose our going businesses just because they may not be attractive. People need to get their cars fixed somewhere. Shouldn't it be in Copake?

yes when some one does a good job cleaning his place and makes it cool good he should be left alone and let him improve

Yes! Many of the questions asked deal with areas in which the Columbia County government has some role or dominion, AND, access to funding (for example, the rehabilitation of sidewalks in "downtown" Copake - Main St. is a COUNTY road, and plans for sidewalk rehabilitation is already being considered by the county DPW). I'd like to be assured that the town government is aware of duplicate concerns and interests, and IS and WILL BE actively seeking participation in the decision-making and planning process in any and all county or state projects that will directly impact Copake.

Yes, Dad's diner is very nice - it's a diner! No, Jim's Auto body doesn't look great, but it's a body shop - it's not meant to look nice! There is a big difference. Other businesses have tried to re-open in Copake and have met obstacles from the over zealous ZEO of the town. High Voltage wanted to increase the size of their WAREHOUSE a couple of years ago and the question of the amount of bathrooms and the size of there septic tank was brought up. IT'S A WAREHOUSE!! No bathrooms. Another person wanted trees planted around the addition! It's well back off the road and is one of the nicest looking places on the south end of the town. The General Store just closed the doors one day and didn't re-open for over a year - people had to find another place to shop and didn't go back when it did re-open twice for short periods of time. When Russ decides to retire from the Copake Drug Store, who can afford to buy the business, compete with CVS or Walmart and still make enough profit to stay in business?? The town says it wants to encourage new businesses but put roadblocks in the way. You better wake up pretty soon because Copake is dying a slow(but quickening) death. THAT WILL BE A VERY BIG SHAME!!!
You might think of ways to make more use of academics and professionals who are either permanent or part time residents

You need to start now. Don't waste anymore time.
your online survey did not work