Village of Afton Planning Board

March 3, 2025

Present: Bill Hoosier, April Leggett

Absent: Trustee Liaison Rob Humphrey, CEO Jeff Butler

Visitors: Dale Dewey

*Meeting called to order at 7:04 pm.

*February Minutes were approved as read.

- *We began to study the Chenango County 2050 Vision Plan and covered Pages 1- 35. We learned about the various economic and social impacts that also impact Afton. We looked at and discussed the challenges and opportunities Afton faces now and in the future.
- *Challenges: shrinking and aging population, young people leaving, lack of public transportation, lack of workforce training, need for economic development, childcare needs, diversified housing needs, growing homeless population and inadequate resources, high living costs relative to income, and the need to attract new businesses and develop diversified agriculture, support for low and middle income families, energy needs are close to capacity use and need to be expanded with alternate clean sources such as solar, wind, and hydroelectric.
- *Opportunities: scenic natural environment, close-knit communities, create innovative ways to support community well-being, create workforce training programs, explore funding to develop alternative clean energy partnerships, increase affordable housing options for seniors and young families, develop childcare options, prioritizing sustainability

and climate change issues like increased flooding, utilize the Afton Fairgrounds for more events, encourage a farmers' market, and advertise farm land to the Amish and Mennonite farmers, develop public transportation, revitalize Main Street businesses and apartments with grant funds.

*Meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

April Leggett

Chair, Planning Board