

Town of Mamakating
Proposed
Six Ward Map

January 26, 2017

Overview

In the November 2015 Elections, voters in the town of Mamakating approved resolutions to establish a Ward system and increase the number of Town Council members to six.

Based on discussions with local government officials, we established basic criteria for these new wards to be drawn. The six wards were to be compact, contiguous and substantially equally populated. The voting-age population and eligible voter counts would be equalized as much as possible. We would attempt to place the entirety of the village of Bloomingburg within one ward and the entirety of the village of Wurtsboro within one ward. We would also attempt to preserve the existing Election District and County Legislative District boundaries if possible.

Equal Population

Using the Census 2010 population data, Mamakating's population is 12,085. Therefore the ideal district size is 2,014 people. Numerous Federal and State court decisions indicate that except for Congressional districts, a deviation is allowed from the ideal district size. Plans with total deviations of 10% or less have been presumed to be substantially equal and comply with one-person-one-vote. Deviations above 10% can be allowed if justified by a rational government policy.

Under this proposed ward plan, the largest district would have 2,092 residents; the smallest would have 1,892 and the total deviation would be 9.98%. This plan achieves the fundamental equal-population requirement of redistricting.

Looking at voting-age population, the total deviation would be 9.97%. Based on the December 2016 voterfile, total deviation using active-voter enrollment would be approximately 8.40%.

Although a ward map could be created that has a lower total deviation, it would require wards to be split by the County Legislative district lines. Since the total deviation in this plan is under 10%, we feel that the wards as drawn meet the primary criteria that the wards be substantially equal population.

Compact and Contiguous

All 6 districts are contiguous. Contiguity is relatively easy to define and there are no instances of "point-contiguity" or "line-of-sight" contiguity that some consider controversial.

Compactness is a more subjective measure. There are different formulas to measure relative compactness, but because this will be the first time wards are created there is no benchmark we can use to compare against. Usually, the "Eye-test" is often considered to be as valid as any statistical measurement. If the districts look compact, they are considered to be compact. There are no districts that have convoluted boundaries and the proposed plan certainly passes this test.

Preservations of village Boundaries

As natural communities of interest, it was decided that the villages of Wurtsboro and Bloomingburg should each be wholly within their respective wards.

Preservations of Existing Election Districts and County Legislative Boundaries

Sullivan County Legislative districts two and four cover parts of the town of Mamakating. To reduce this plan's effect on administering the County Elections, it was decided that, if possible, none of the new wards should be split by this boundary. The portion of County Legislative district 2 in the town has sufficient population to create two wards; each with an average population deviation of about -6% from the ideal population. The rest of the town has sufficient population for four wards; each with an average population deviation of about +3%.

In 2016, Mamakating had seven Election Districts. It is not possible to create a legal six ward map without modifying the boundaries of most of these Election Districts.

Voting Right Act

Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act protects a minority community's right to equal opportunity to elect the candidate of their choice. There is not sufficient population of any covered racial or ethnic group that would require Section 2 to be applied.

Evolution

We arrived at this proposal in several steps. Our first drafts attempted to draw without input from the Town to get a feel for the population distribution and how the existing political boundaries might be affected. Early plans that attempted to maintain the existing election district boundaries proved to be impossible.

After meetings and discussions with the Town Supervisor and Town Board members we created plans that maintained the County Legislative boundary and some that did not. Acceptable plans also kept the villages of Wurtsboro and Bloomingburg intact.

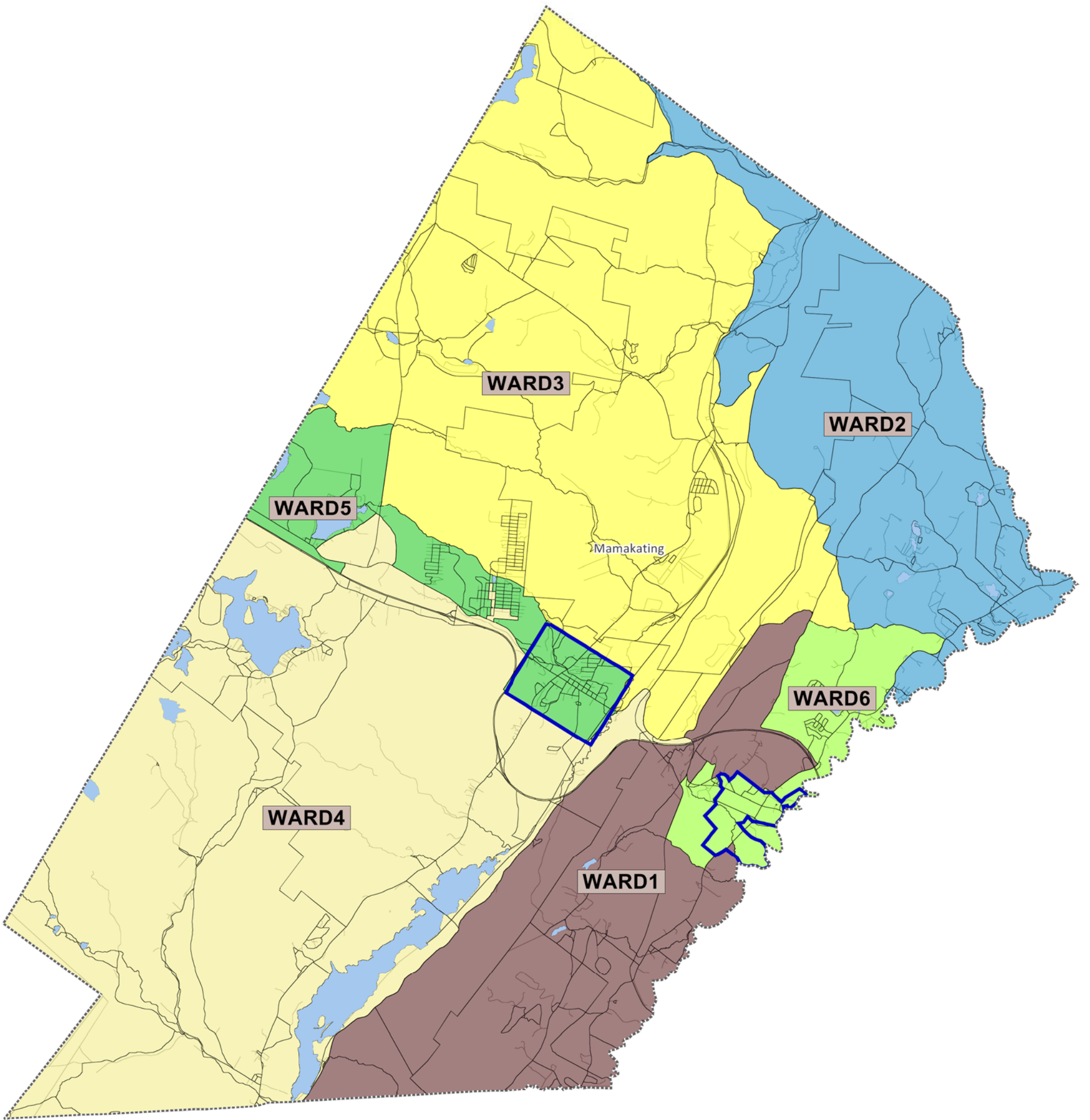
After additional discussions, we arrived at this proposal, which we feel meets all of the criteria established by the Board.

Conclusions

Based on our analysis of the proposed plan, we believe it adheres to Local, State and Federal laws and regulations and follows other traditional redistricting criteria such as compactness and contiguity. It also minimizes disruptions to election district boundaries.

Appendix/Attachments

- 1- This Overview Report
- 2- MamakatingProposal_MandB
- 3- MamakatingProposal_SUMMARYREPORT
- 4- MamakatingProposal_WardBlockAssign
- 5- Mamakating_VoterAssignmentWork– to assist Board of Elections
- 6- Six Individual Ward Maps– 11 x 17 and 34 x 44
- 7-Townwide Map Proposed Wards – 11 x 17 and 34 x 44



District D10	WARD1		WARD2		WARD3		WARD4		WARD5		WARD6	
Population	2,071		2,092		2,056		1,891		1,892		2,083	
Deviation	57	2.83%	78	3.87%	42	2.09%	(123)	-6.11%	(122)	-6.06%	69	3.43%
Hispanic Origin	143	6.9%	175	8.4%	176	8.6%	135	7.1%	181	9.6%	217	10.4%
Not Hispanic	1,928	93.1%	1,917	91.6%	1,880	91.4%	1,756	92.9%	1,711	90.4%	1,866	89.6%
NH_Wht	1,789	86.4%	1,772	84.7%	1,727	84.0%	1,635	86.5%	1,600	84.6%	1,738	83.4%
NH_Blkc	73	3.5%	71	3.4%	72	3.5%	65	3.4%	52	2.7%	57	2.7%
NH_Asn	27	1.3%	32	1.5%	29	1.4%	14	0.7%	23	1.2%	10	0.5%
18+_Pop	1,521	73.4%	1,565	74.8%	1,642	79.9%	1,500	79.3%	1,488	78.6%	1,552	74.5%
18+_Deviation	(24)	-1.53%	20	1.32%	97	6.30%	(45)	-2.89%	(57)	-3.67%	7	0.47%
H18+_Pop	85	5.6%	107	6.8%	122	7.4%	88	5.9%	119	8.0%	140	9.0%
NH18+_Pop	1,436	94.4%	1,458	93.2%	1,520	92.6%	1,412	94.1%	1,369	92.0%	1,412	91.0%
NH18+_Wht	1,345	88.4%	1,354	86.5%	1,414	86.1%	1,331	88.7%	1,289	86.6%	1,329	85.6%
NH18+_Blkc	49	3.2%	51	3.3%	56	3.4%	44	2.9%	43	2.9%	40	2.6%
NH18+_Asn	22	1.4%	29	1.9%	23	1.4%	12	0.8%	20	1.3%	9	0.6%
Enroll*	1,272		1,200		1,220		1,228		1,170		1,195	
Enroll Deviation	58	4.76%	(14)	-1.17%	6	0.48%	14	1.14%	(44)	-3.64%	(19)	-1.58%

Ideal Ward Population 2,014
Min Deviation -6.11%
Max Deviation 3.87%
Total Deviation 9.98%

18+ Ideal Ward Populator 1,545
18+ Min Deviation -3.67%
18+ Max Deviation 6.30%
18+ Total Deviation 9.97%

Ideal Enrollment 1,214
Min Enrollment -3.64%
Max Enrollment 4.76%
Enrollment Deviation 8.40%

* Enrollment is based on the December 2016 Voterfile
Approximately 46 voters were not assigned to a Ward and will need Board of Elections assistance.

Ward 1

Tract	Blocks					
951200	2028	2030	4001 - 4032	5000	5004 - 5005	5007
	6016	6018 - 6019				
951300	4000 - 4008	4057 - 4064	4067	4071		

Ward 2

Tract	Blocks					
951200	1000 - 1007	1009 - 1024	7000 - 7002	7007 - 7017		
951300	1004 - 1006	1012 - 1014	1041 - 1043	1053		

Ward 3

Tract	Blocks					
951200	1008	2000 - 2027	2029	2031 - 2032	2034 - 2036	2038
	2040	2055 - 2059	3000	3008 - 3010	7003	
951300	1000 - 1003	1007 - 1011	1015 - 1040	1044 - 1052	1054 - 1070	1099
	2000 - 2043	2056	2093	2104 - 2106	2108	2110

Ward 4

Tract	Blocks					
951200	2033	2043 - 2054	3034 - 3041			
951300	1080	1082	1084 - 1091	2057	2065	2071
	2076 - 2077	2081 - 2082	2099	2101 - 2103	3000 - 3057	4009 - 4024
	4026 - 4056	4065 - 4066	4068 - 4070	4072 - 4073		

Ward 5

Tract	Blocks					
951200	2037	2039	2041 - 2042	3001 - 3007	3011 - 3033	
951300	1071 - 1079	1081	1083	1092 - 1098	2044 - 2055	2058 - 2064
	2066 - 2070	2072 - 2075	2078 - 2080	2083 - 2092	2094 - 2098	2100
	2107	2109	4025			

Ward 6

Tract	Blocks					
951200	4000	5001 - 5003	5006	5008 - 5026	6000 - 6015	6017
	6020 - 6022	7004 - 7006	7018 - 7019			