

2014 Marshfield Planning Commission Town Survey Results Summary

(Recurring themes were reported below – a full report can be viewed on the town website – planning and zoning page)

72 surveys returned out of approximately 830 sent out. Not everyone answered every question.

A.

1. 65 are residents of Marshfield.
- 2,3. Most have lived in town under 30 years (42:24) and all over the town.
4. Most have property in the Rural Residential/Agricultural district.
5. Like best about where they live:
 - Good neighbors, community
 - Few neighbors, privacy
 - Beauty, Forest, Open fields
 - Good roads and road crew
6. Miss about Marshfield past:
 - Less traffic
 - Peace and quiet
7. Least desirable aspect:
 - Traffic, Speeding
 - Noise
 - High taxes (with few services)
8. About half of those who responded commute to work and almost always in a car (30/4/1:27).
9. Twice as many do not work in Marshfield as those that do (41:22).
10. About one third have a home business (16:50).
11. Three residents of those that responded rent.
12. Age of home:
 - Under 10 years – 4
 - 10-29 years – 16
 - 30-49 years – 17
 - 50-100 years – 12
 - Over 100 years – 21

Most houses were therefore built from 1960s through 2004. We have many historic houses.

13. Rural Character:

- Farms, Gardens, Agriculture, Food, Animals, Active working landscape
- Woods, Forest, Wildlife, Wilderness
- Open land, Fields
- Nature
- Low density, Little development
- Little traffic, Dirt roads
- Quiet, Peaceful, Private
- Small Village, Small town , Local economy, Community

14. Development in Village:

- Restaurant, Pub,
- Affordable groceries, Small business, Local services, Bank, Hardware

- Elder Housing
- Crosswalks, Sidewalks

15. Marshfield development:

- Agriculture
- Home occupations
- Elder Housing
- None

16. Over three-quarters of those responding believe Marshfield could provide basic needs with economic development from within:

- General store
- Affordable Healthful Fresh Local Groceries

17. Most do shop in Marshfield Village, more than once a week, but buy less than 10%;

- Gas
- Groceries not affordable

B.

1. Most are not much or a little familiar with zoning regs.

2. **Bad** This question was a bit confusing but the over consensus from both those who have familiarity with our regs and those that do not was that most want an increase in the distance for a buildable area.

3. Most would like to separate Ag from Rural Residential zone.

4. Most feel the current zoning/subdivision system is fine or needs work.

5. Most disagree that Marshfield should repeal zoning.

6-10. Most agree that

- wetlands should be protected
- significant wildlife habitat should be protected
- historic structures should be preserved
- there should be incentives to encourage agricultural use of farmland
- and that affordable housing should be encouraged

C.

1-5. Most think it is a good idea and would like elder housing apartments in the village.

Other comments: property taxes are too high, thank you for doing conducting the survey.