

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Town of Ulysses

January 14, 2014

Held at the Ulysses Town Hall at 10 Elm Street on January 14, 2014.

PRESENT:

Supervisor- Liz Thomas
Second Deputy Supervisor- Michelle Wright
Board members- Rich Goldman, John Hertzler, Nancy Zahler
Clerk- Carissa Parlato
Attorney- Mariette Geldenhuys
Environmental Planner/Zoning Officer- Darby Kiley
Highway Superintendent- Jim Meeker

ABSENT:

Board member- Dave Kerness

OTHERS PRESENT:

Town residents- Greg Reynolds, Diane Hillmann
Reporters- Rob Montana, Kat Clement

Notice of Regular Town Board meetings are posted on the website and clerk's board.

Supervisor Thomas called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

APPROVING THE MEETING'S AGENDA

The supervisor suggests the following additions and modifications to the current agenda:

- Rearranging items so that Ms. Kiley's and Ms. Geldenhuy's business can be discussed first. This will include the 2014 Priorities for the Town Board and the State of the Town discussion.
- The budget needs to be approved, after approval of the claims.
- More dates are needed for Planning Board and BZA interviews; this will be added to the end of the new business section of the agenda.

RESOLUTION 2014-36: BE IT RESOLVED, the agenda for the Tuesday, January 14 be accepted with the aforementioned modifications.

Moved: Thomas

Seconded: Zahler

ADOPTED:

Ms. Thomas aye
Ms. Zahler aye
Mr. Hertzler aye
Mr. Kerness (absent)
Mr. Goldman aye

Vote: 4-0

Date Adopted: 1/14/14

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To cover additional Town Hall maintenance costs neglected in prior years.

A1670.4 Printing & Mailing increase \$2,786.50

A1650.4 Central Communications CE decrease \$2,786.50

To cover additional costs of postage, and for a second newsletter sent out.

B1420.4 Attorney CE increase \$5,718.75

B3620.11 Deputy Safety Office PS decrease \$5,718.75

To cover additional attorney costs due to zoning law change.

DA5130.1 Machinery PS increase \$5,408.53

DA5130.4 Machinery CE decrease \$5,408.53

To cover additional personnel costs in the highway.

DA5140.1 Brush & Weeds PS increase \$ 851.82

DA5140.4 Brush & Weeds CE decrease \$ 851.82

To cover additional personnel costs in the highway.

DA9030.8 Social Security – DA Fund increase \$ 419.46

DA9060.8 Medical Insurance – DA Fund decrease \$ 419.46

To cover additional Social Security tax due to increased wages.

DB5110.4 Highway Maintenance CE increase \$1,636.32

DB915 Assigned Unappropriated Fund Bal decrease \$1,636.32

To cover Highway Maintenance CE, budget balances of which were previously used to cover shortfalls on other budget lines.

SW3 8310.43 Water Administration CE increase \$ 306.32

SW3 8340.4 Water Transport/Distribution CE decrease \$ 306.32

To cover additional administration costs.

SW8340.1 Water Laborer PS increase \$ 319.30

SW8340.2 Water Transport/Distribution EQ decrease \$ 319.30

To cover additional labor expenses.

SW9030.83 Water Social Security increase \$ 41.00

SW9040.83 Water Workers Compensation decrease \$ 41.00

To cover additional Social Security expense due to increased salaries.

RESOLUTION 2014-38: BE IT RESOLVED that the aforementioned modifications to the 2013 budget be accepted as discussed.

Moved: Thomas

Seconded: Zahler

Ms. Thomas aye

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Ms. Zahler aye
Mr. Hertzler aye
Mr. Kerness (absent)
Mr. Goldman aye

Vote: 4-0

Date Adopted: 1/14/14

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FOR 12/10/13 AND 12/17/13

(TABLED until Mr. Kerness is present)

APPROVAL OF ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING MINUTES FROM 1/6/14

Discussion:

Ms. Zahler- prefer to have discussion appear before vote in minutes.

Ms. Thomas- the tables in the minutes should be re-formatted.

RESOLUTION 2014-39: BE IT RESOLVED that the Organizational Meeting minutes from 1/6/14 be approved with the discussed changes.

Moved: Thomas

Seconded: Goldman

Ms. Thomas aye
Ms. Zahler aye
Mr. Hertzler abstain
Mr. Kerness (absent)
Mr. Goldman aye

Vote: 3-0

Adopted date: 1/14/14

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Diane Hillmann- wanted to call attention to the items that she has been bringing up for the past 3 years and feels have not been addressed:

1. Definition of “family” in town law has an effect on living conditions/housing
2. Zoning issues for the town outside of the village- this area falls outside of inspection guidelines
3. Red house on corner of Jacksonville and Trumansburg Roads, and similar properties
4. Church in Jacksonville- Diane has prepared a CD about/for this- collection of media reports on 1970s gas/oil spill.

Greg Reynolds was concerned about whether water charges are they apportioned only to its users; the village sewage treatment plant overflow going into the creek; cost increases for EMS. Mr. Reynolds also would like it to be known that he put forth a resolution for PDR.

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Ms. Thomas clarified that water charges are paid only by households in the water districts.

TOWN REPORTS

PLANNING/ZONING:

Ms. Kiley-

- The board met and discussed their 2014 work plan. Rod Hawkes will chair the Planning Board; John Wertis is vice- chair.
- Prepping for meeting with village planning board- will discuss ideas on how to collaborate.
- Sheep farm issue on Agard Rd.
- Re-zoning request on Trumansburg Road property.
- Grant funds were received in collaboration with other towns to hire consultant for home energy rating and disclosure.
- Attended annual Code Enforcement/Valuation staff meeting, discussed new software possibilities and other relevant issues for town and county, including lot dimensions for sanitary code.

HIGHWAY:

Mr. Meeker-

- Busy month with plowing/salting and general maintenance on vehicles.
- Hauling stones for stock piles
- Very few water problems with ice melting, unlike some other municipalities.

Discussion:

Drainage problem in Jacksonville.

Mr. Meeker- the municipal water was shut off so he thinks the problem is not with the town but with the old store basement. It is filled with 4-5ft. of water and it sometimes seeps into neighbor's property. The town can only intervene if flooding interferes with roads (town property); it cannot work on private property.

Ms. Thomas- ideas for solving this issue can be incorporated into work plan.

TOWN CLERK:

- Monthly report from December shows that a total of \$1907 was collected in fees, with \$1593.81 of that paid to the Supervisor.
- Since Jan. 2, we have been busy collecting tax and water bills, as well as dog licenses. Patty and the rest of the town hall staff have been extremely helpful and supportive in the transition.

Discussion on what other items might be of interest to the board that the clerk might include:

Ms. Zahler- comments/concerns from residents, #s of marriage licenses issued to help identify trends.

CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER:

- Yearly reports distributed by Ms. Thomas
- \$13,506 collected from permits in 2013

SUPERVISOR:

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Ms. Thomas-

- Has been working to set the foundation for new elected officials and staff.
- Attended a training with other new staff last week.
- The building has been re-keyed.

DEPUTY SUPERVISOR:

Ms. Wright-

- Overview of fleet vehicle procurement- auction vs. state contracts.
- Overview of tasks since coming on board
- Reviewed vehicle options for water district/code enforcement. The supervisor's office will work with Doug and Alex to find the best options.

TOWN BOARD:

Mr. Hertzler- attempted to, but was not able to attend the Environmental Management Meeting on Jan. 9.

Ms. Zahler- gave village meeting updates on their 2nd water source.

The board discussed whether residents might be able to hook into this water line, and the logistics in doing so.

NEW BUSINESS:
STATE OF THE TOWN

Discussion:

The new board strongly supports sharing their priorities with the public and providing a forum for their feedback. This could be done through a "state of the town" forum.

Possibilities: could be topic-specific or include many topics; break out groups; regular coffee hours with rotating board members; panels, etc.

The work plan was discussed in relation to this topic. Some tasks of the board are mandatory. Optional items should be prioritized. Putting the work plan on the website would be educational for the public.

Mr. Meeker excused himself at 8:50 p.m.

Ms. Geldenhuys was excused at 9:15 p.m.

TABLED RESOLUTIONS FROM ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

RESOLUTION 2014-7: BE IT RESOLVED that the following crime coverage for Town officials, appointees and employees is hereby approved:

Money inside premises \$100,000 (\$1,000 deductible)

Money outside premises \$100,000 (\$1,000 deductible)

Forgery and alteration \$100,000 (\$1,000 deductible)

Employee Theft - Per Loss \$50,000 (\$2,500 deductible)

Excess Coverage:

Deputy Supervisor \$650,000

Supervisor \$650,000

Tax Collector/Town Clerk \$650,000

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Includes Faithful Performance

Moved: Goldman

Seconded: Thomas

Ms. Thomas aye
Ms. Zahler aye
Mr. Hertzler aye
Mr. Kerness (absent)
Mr. Goldman aye

Vote: 4-0

Adopted date: 1/14/14

Discussion on other resolutions:

Resolution 22- not all appointments are confirmed yet.

Resolution 23- still seeking applicants for Planning Board and BZA.

Resolution 26- cleaning contract – continue to table this.

Resolution 29- has to do with the public wishing to add a topic to the agenda. Will strike this item for now.

2014 PRIORITIES FOR TOWN BOARD/WORK PLAN

Discussion: several issues are very important to board members. Due to time limitations, the board will continue to prioritize this list at a future time.

Ms. Kiley was excused at 9:56 p.m.

DELEGATE FOR THE ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS MEETING

RESOLUTION 2014-40: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board nominates Supervisor Elizabeth Thomas as delegate to the Association of Towns 2014 annual meeting in New York City.

Moved: Goldman

Seconded: Hertzler

Ms. Thomas aye
Ms. Zahler aye
Mr. Hertzler aye
Mr. Kerness (absent)
Mr. Goldman aye

Vote: 4-0

Adopted date: 1/14/14

RESOLUTION 2014-41: BE IT RESOLVED that the clerk's office increase its petty cash balance to \$300 in order to keep separate the change for taxes and licenses.

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Moved: Goldman

Seconded: Hertzler

Ms. Thomas aye
Ms. Zahler aye
Mr. Hertzler aye
Mr. Kerness (absent)
Mr. Goldman aye

Vote: 4-0

Adopted date: 1/14/14

RESOLUTION 2014-42: BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board authorizes the Building Code Enforcement Officer to appoint a Deputy Building Code Enforcement Officer, at a rate not to exceed \$20/hour, for a maximum of \$10,400 annually.

Moved: Thomas

Seconded: Goldman

Ms. Thomas aye
Ms. Zahler aye
Mr. Hertzler aye
Mr. Kerness (absent)
Mr. Goldman aye

Vote: 4-0

Adopted date: 1/14/14

PLANNING BOARD/BZA INTERVIEWS

Scheduled for:
January 27, 5-6 p.m.
January 28, 6-7 p.m.

PERSONNEL POLICY

Action tabled on this item until Town Board members have a chance to read the policy. At the next meeting, the health insurance portion will be presented by Ms. Thomas and Ms. Wright.

Motion to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Goldman, seconded by Ms. Zahler, carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Carissa Parlato,
Town Clerk
January 26, 2014

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