

TOWN BOARD MEETING

Town of Ulysses

July 22, 2014

Audio of the minutes are available on the website at ulysses.ny.us.

The meeting was held at the Ulysses Town Hall at 10 Elm Street, Trumansburg.

PRESENT:

Supervisor- Liz Thomas

Board members- Rich Goldman, John Hertzler, Nancy Zahler, David Kerness

Clerk- Carissa Parlato

Environmental planner- Darby Kiley

OTHERS PRESENT:

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

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

GENERAL BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

RESOLUTION 2014-144:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ulysses Town Board approve the agenda for the July 22, 2014 meeting with the following additions: general announcements and a short discussion of the animal control contract.

Moved: Ms. Thomas

Seconded: Mr. Kerness

Ms. Thomas aye

Ms. Zahler aye

Mr. Kerness aye

Mr. Goldman aye

Mr. Hertzler aye

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 7/22/14

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: July 8, 2014

RESOLUTION 2014-145:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ulysses Town Board approve the minutes for the July 8, 2014 as edited by Ms. Zahler.

Moved: Ms. Zahler

Seconded: Mr. Kerness

Ms. Thomas	aye
Ms. Zahler	aye
Mr. Kerness	aye
Mr. Goldman	aye
Mr. Hertzler	aye

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 7/22/14

OLD BUSINESS:

FARMLAND PROTECTION IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAM – Authorize submission of proposal to NYS Ag and Markets under the Farmland Protection Implementation Program (FPIG)

Ms. Kiley provided some background on the program, also known as Purchase of Development Rights (PDR). If awarded, the property in question will be preserved as farmland indefinitely.

She further shared that it's been a few years since the county's Ag and Farmland Protection Board has had the opportunity to apply for these funds. The county group decided to support this farm and one in Newfield. If funds are awarded, the town would co-hold the easement along with the county.

Ms. Thomas expressed concerns about the current use of land on the sloped areas.

RESOLUTION 2014-146:

WHEREAS, in 2013, the Town of Ulysses adopted an Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan with a Vision Statement as follows: "Ulysses will be home to a healthy and diverse collection of farms that employ a variety of marketing strategies, are supported by community members and local policies, and contribute to economically viable and environmentally sound agricultural enterprises." And

WHEREAS, one of the goals of the 2013 Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan states that farmers in the Town of Ulysses interested in the State's PDR program should be encouraged and supported in their application by the Town and with County support, and

WHEREAS, the Tompkins County Agriculture and Farmland Protection Board has identified Glenwood Farms, an 80-acre livestock farm on Glenwood Heights Road in the Town of Ulysses within the Agricultural District as a high priority farm for protection through the use of this year's PDR funding, and

WHEREAS, the owners of Glenwood Farms have expressed interest in applying for PDR funding, and

WHEREAS, should funding be received, the Town of Ulysses and Tompkins County will work together on project implementation and will co-hold the Conservation Easement,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Town of Ulysses Town Board authorizes the submission of a Farmland Protection Implementation Project proposal to the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets on behalf of Glenwood Farms.

Moved: Mr. Kerness Seconded: Mr. Hertzler

Discussion:

Ms. Zahler is concerned that not enough people knew about the funding/had the opportunity to apply. Ms. Thomas expressed that she would prefer to wait to submit an application until the town's Ag Committee is up and running and can be involved in the process.

Ms. Thomas	nay
Ms. Zahler	aye
Mr. Kerness	aye
Mr. Goldman	aye
Mr. Hertzler	aye

Vote: 4-1

Date Adopted: 7/22/14

Ms. Kiley was excused at 7:45pm

NEW BUSINESS:

DOG CONTROL-

Ms. Thomas has been working with a coalition of other municipalities on animal control. The state requires the town to have a shelter and dog control officer. The town contracts with the SPCA to provide those services. The contract fees are based on population and activities. Enumeration is not covered under the contract and will be an additional expense every 4-5 years.

Mr. Kerness was excused at 8pm.

RESOLUTION 2014-147:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses approve the 3-year agreement with Tompkins County Animal Control for services during the period from 1/1/2015 to 12/31/2017 as spelled out in the 2014 Animal Control Services Agreement.

Moved: Ms. Thomas Seconded: Ms. Zahler

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

Vote: 4-0

Date Adopted: 7/22/14

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**Ambulance billing-**

Ms. Zahler provided some updates on ambulance billing. The company she has been speaking with, Medex, clarified that the town can bill users as much or as little as they choose.

Survey on housing needs of the aging-

Ms. Zahler met with the Office for the Aging who recently conducted a small, informal survey on housing needs for senior citizens in Ulysses. The results revealed a desire for condo-style (low maintenance) accommodations in Ulysses. Ms. Zahler noted that the board should take this into consideration for future development.

Code enforcement-

Ms. Thomas relayed that the town attorney is having difficulty getting compliance from properties in violation.

PERSONNEL POLICY UPDATE:

Ms. Thomas suggested that the board finalize all areas except the health insurance section.

The group discussed how to move forward on the health insurance portion and considered a system of gradually raising employee salaries while lowering the town's share of costs.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MTG.:

Ms. Thomas noted the agenda items for the Aug.12 meeting.

ADJOURN:

Mr. Goldman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:58 pm, seconded by Ms. Thomas.

Respectfully submitted

by Carissa Parlato, 7/24/14