

REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING

Town of Ulysses

March 10, 2015

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
1st Deputy Supervisor- Nancy Zahler
Board members- John Hertzler, Rich Goldman, Dave Kerness
Clerk- Carissa Parlato
Highway Superintendent- Jim Meeker

ABSENT:

2nd Deputy Supervisor- Michelle Wright
Planner/Zoning Officer- Darby Kiley

OTHERS PRESENT: Phillip Antweiler, Jacksonville Community Association (JCA)

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

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

GENERAL BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

RESOLUTION 2015-58:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ulysses Town Board approve the agenda for March 10, 2015 with the addition of an executive session and a resolution to set a public hearing to spend bridge reserve money for work done in 2013.

Moved: Ms. Thomas Seconded: Mr. Goldman

Amendment- Mr. Kerness would like to add an EMS resolution under new business.

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

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 3/10/15

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PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Mr. Antweiler noted that he will attend a conference in Rochester on brownfield sites and grant funding.

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES:

(none)

TOWN REPORTS: *(see appendix)*

OLD BUSINESS:

(none)

(Mr. Meeker was excused at this time (8:45pm)).

NEW BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF COOPERATIVE EXTENSION CONTRACT

RESOLUTION 2015-59:

Resolved that the Ulysses Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign the 2015 contract with Tompkins County Cooperative Extension to provide support for youth service programming.

Moved: Ms. Thomas Seconded: Mr. Kerness

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

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 3/10/15

SETTING PUBLIC HEARING FOR APPROPRIATION OF BRIDGE FUNDS

RESOLUTION 2015-60:

Resolved that the Ulysses Town Board sets the public hearing for March 24, 2015 at 6:45 p.m. to hear public comment on the appropriation of funds in the amount of \$36,018.24 to pay the Town's share for repairs done to the Seneca Road bridge in 2013.

Moved: Ms. Thomas Seconded: Mr. Goldman

Ms. Thomas	aye
Ms. Zahler	aye
Mr. Hertzler	aye

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Mr. Kerness aye
Mr. Goldman aye

Vote: 5-0
Date Adopted: 3/10/15

EMS MEETING FOR LAKESHORE OWNERS

Ms. Thomas would like to proceed with the meeting on the 3/21.

Mr. Kerness presented information and data and explained why he would like to change the meeting date.

RESOLUTION 2015-61: EMS Lakeshore public information meeting scheduled for March 21, 2015

WHEREAS the subject meeting is scheduled when most of the lakeshore community are not in residence, and

WHEREAS the remaining residence are wintering in warmer climates’, and

WHEREAS there is no apparent schedule that is pressing for a conclusion, and

WHEREAS the West Shore Neighborhood Association (WSNA) has specifically requested a Town Board/ WSNA executive committee meeting to discuss the concerns, and

WHEREAS WSNA has gone on record requesting to conduct this meeting in June to assure the good attendance of this meeting

NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED the EMS information meeting be rescheduled for June 2015, and be it further

RESOLVED a Town Board/WSNA executive committee meeting be conducted at a time convenient to all and a “sit down to understand the areas of concern.

Moved: Mr. Kerness Seconded: Mr. Goldman

Discussion:

Ms. Thomas felt that the meeting should be held sooner since a number of residents had called her to express concerns. Ms. Zahler indicated that several members of the West Shore Neighborhood Association expressed interest in meeting with her for background on EMS. Most of the board expressed support for a compromise that included having members of the Town Board meet with the WSNA representatives prior to the March 21st meeting to listen to their concerns and to offer a second meeting if needed in June when seasonal residents return.

Ms. Thomas nay

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

Vote: 1-4
Motion failed.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:
(no comments spoken nor submitted)

MONTHLY BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 2/24

RESOLUTION 2015-62:
BE IT RESOLVED that the Ulysses Town Board approve the minutes of 2/24.

Moved: Ms. Thomas Seconded: Mr. Goldman

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

Vote: 5-0
Adopted: 3/10/15

APPROVAL OF CLAIMS:

RESOLUTION 2015-63:
BE IT RESOLVED that the Ulysses Town Board approves payment of claims, voucher # 53-93 in the amount of \$59,719.41.

Moved: Ms. Thomas Seconded: Ms. Zahler

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

Vote: 5-0
Adopted: 3/10/15

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ms. Thomas moved to go into Executive Session at 9:26pm to discuss matters of the employment of a particular person and matters of current or pending litigation. This was seconded by Ms. Zahler and passed unanimously.

Ms. Thomas moved to end executive session at 10:09pm, seconded by Ms. Zahler and passed unanimously.

ADJOURN:

Mr. Goldman moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:10pm, seconded by Mr. Hertzler and passed unanimously.

APPENDIX:

TOWN REPORTS:

HIGHWAY SUPERINTENDENT:

Mr. Meeker reported the following:

- It's been a busy month with plowing and sanding.
- Salt is still scarce.
- The crew has only had two days off in the last few months: 2/28 and 3/7.
- They are trying to stay ahead of equipment repairs due to the high use.
- Water meters were read
- A few hydrants were cleaned

PLANNING BOARD / ZONING OFFICER: Darby Kiley

Planning Board

At the February 17 meeting, the Planning Board reviewed the Zoning revisions as part of the General Code project. At the March 3 meeting, the Planning Board approved a two-lot subdivision on the corner of Taughannock Blvd and Garrett Rd.

BZA

At the February 18 meeting, the Board of Zoning Appeals heard and approved appeals on three properties: a height variance for a garage on Watermark Rd; height and lakeshore setback variances for an accessory building on Taughannock Blvd; lot area and width variances for a property on Perry City Rd.

Enforcement actions

- Stormwater violation: Ms. Thomas and Ms. Kiley met with the town's stormwater consultants, and the Town has approved the Stormwater Plan for the property on Pennsylvania Ave. They are finalizing the Maintenance Agreement.
- Zoning violation: 1942 Trumansburg Rd – At the January 27 court date, the sentencing was stayed for another 30 days because some progress has been made and a list of additional actions was provided. At the March 10 court appearance, Ms. Kiley updated the court that no significant progress had been made, and Judge Dresser closed the matter and ordered Mr. Dodge to appear at the Tompkins County jail on March 13 to serve the 10 day sentence.

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Grants

Residential Energy Score Project Grant – Susan Brock is researching the legal issues associated with the project. The project consultant is preparing a report summarizing the research conducted on existing home energy laws and programs.

Zoning Amendments Grant – NYSERDA is reviewing the contract documents.

Other Meetings/Issues

ITCTC – The Planning Committee recommended approval of the Council budget and work plan. Council staff provided an update of accident data for Tompkins County for 2008-2013.

Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization (IO) – The group finalized a press release for the upcoming watershed plan update process. The IO discussed members of past committees and how to re-engage those members.

TOWN CLERK: Carissa Parlato

Financial Report:

Collected \$931.50 in fees for licenses (dog, marriage, sporting)

The town keeps \$872.50 of that.

Licenses Issued:

Sporting licenses- 0

Disabled parking permits- 6

Dog licenses and renewals- 55

Marriage licenses- 0

Plumbing permits- 1

Water District Tasks:

- Sent out new bills
- collected and processed payments,
- answered general inquiries,
- issued plumbing and new contractor permits,
- reconciled water account balances with Michelle.

Other Tasks:

- Cross –reconciliation of town bank accounts with Michelle
- Sent listserv messages to keep residents updated.
- Updated the website
- General Code- spent time gathering information and creating a master list of edits to submit
- Vacation 2/25-3/3.
- Updating plumbing permit
- Helped advertise Ag Committee and EMS lake shore mtg.
- Updating organizing/filing systems
- Worked on FOIL request

Committees:

- Health Consortium- the March 5 meeting was cancelled.

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CODE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER

(no report)

SUPERVISOR-Elizabeth Thomas

Newsletter will come out soon should include:

- EMS
- Dorsey Hill- May 16
- Sidewalk and zoning grants
- 2014 accomplishments and 2015 work plan
- Healthcare navigation
- Providing a place for residents to offer feedback on town services

Water District

- Meet with Town of Ithaca to resolve water leakage payments for 2014 and discuss aerator in Ithaca water tank.
- Meet with the TC Dept of Health about TTHM options (Hunt engineer present).
- Arrange for TTHM Working Group to be formed, prepare information for meeting and run meeting with TTHM Working Group.
- Write quarterly letter to residents about TTHM and progress on the solution.
- Update job description for Water District Operator. Coordinate with Highway Dept.

Records and Local Laws

- Continued: Review General Code recommendations for changes to local laws and zoning, make recommendations, request input from Mariette on specifics, edit document with recommendations, present to Town Board.
- Look up answers to unresolved questions from GC.
- Review zoning changes sent by Darby.
- Final check of changes.

Shared Services

- Update inventory of shared services.

Agriculture

- Part of team organizing Ag Committee recruitment meeting, which involves
 - Write/edit postcard announcing meeting and listserv announcement.
 - Discuss how to proceed with former AFFP chair and Deputy Supervisor.
 - Plan for meeting of farmers and farmland owners on 3/25.

Stormwater

- Review the January version of the new stormwater plan
- Request meeting with Stormwater Officer, Engineer and Stormwater Consultant to understand SWPPP.

EMS

Address ambulance concerns along the lake by

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- Written response to WSNA
- Discuss how to respond to concerns with EMS and fire management from T-burg and Bangs
- Meet with EMS Manager, Fire Chiefs, T-burg Commissioner and Mayor, Deputy Supervisor and Town Board member to discuss how to proceed.
- Write up listserv announcement and help with postcard announcement of Public Information Meeting
- Talk to Tim Bangs about capabilities and policies.
- Prepare for Public Information Meeting on 3/21 (meet with Michelle, Brian and review/edit Michelle's draft of PowerPoint presentation).

TCCOG

- Topics:
 - Shared investing
 - Stormwater issues
 - Parameters for spending TCCOG funds.
 - Assessment Dept. report

Association of Towns

- Coordinate with other municipalities on bylaws reforms for the AoT. This actually took a lot of planning and energy.
- Run for Executive Committee as an example of a democratic process and to highlight the dysfunction of how the committee is selected.
- Travel to NYC for annual meeting. Attend numerous sessions and the expo.

Trails

- Meet with Trails Mapping coordinators and County Planning/Mapping staff to coordinate work on project.
- Finish writing grant and submit.

Other

- Monthly coffee break with staff
- Press conference – present regarding Cayuga Power Plant repowering.
- Submit comments on TC Comprehensive Plan.
- Check FOIL request requirements.
- Write up listserv news for the month.
- Dig into details of Governors new tax savings proposal.
- Recruit residents in Covert and Ovid for Intermunicipal Organization for Cayuga Lake water quality improvements.
- Design new logo for ToU.
- Work with EPA Representative on the need for funding for water infrastructure. Provide photos and text of the problems.
- Work with Michelle on accounting, AUD, accounting software, etc.
- Respond to constant flow of questions from residents, volunteers and staff.
- Weekly review of topics with attorney for the town.

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- Prepare agendas, resolutions, background documents, review topics with TB members, conduct meetings, and review minutes.
- Review claims and budget, make suggested budget modifications to be approved by TB, review payroll, sign checks,
- Periodic check in with Town Clerk and Deputy Supervisor re work load and coordination.
- Ms. Thomas presented Gov. Cuomo's Circuit Breaker proposal which offers a tax credit.

DEPUTY SUPERVISOR / BOOKKEEPER- Michelle E. Wright

Bookkeeper

- Research of accounting software that is a more appropriate fit with our accounting needs
- Payroll
- 2 youth added to payroll
- NYSLRS (retirement system) reporting
- Payments
- AUD work with Mary
 - Allocation of interest to reserves
 - Other work needed to retrofit our system with AUD reporting requirements
- CHIPS paperwork with Jim
- Reserve fund diagram creation (still in the works)
- Vouchers and other payments
 - EMS and Fire contract payment
- End of year budget modifications

Deputy Supervisor

- Attendance at the annual AOT conference in NYC
 - Report of sessions attended and related notes provided previously
- Ag committee mailing
- EMS info session mailing
- Research pictures for Jacksonville
- Solar utilities work
 - Met with Melissa Kemp: she confirmed that the credit provided by NYSEG and Direct Energy were accurate
 - Investigating ways in which solar credit on utility bills can be more transparent
- EMS poverty guidelines updated on website
- Newsletter template update
- REV comments posted to PSC website

Sidewalks

- Work on organization of engineering selection committee
- Draft MOU between Village and Town to Liz for edits

TOWN BOARD MEMBERS AND COMMITTEES

Mr. Hertzler-

Gave highlights on the shared services meeting with the school district at BOCES.

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Mr. Goldman-

Reported that the Planning Board is running smoothly.

Ms. Zahler-

Gave updates on the following:

- Youth Commission
- JCA and Exxon properties
- Village of Trumansburg board meeting

Respectfully submitted by Carissa Parlato on 3/30/15.