

TOWN BOARD MEETING

Town of Ulysses

September 22, 2015

Audio of the minutes are available on the website at [ulysses.ny.us](http://ulysses.ny.us).

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

**PRESENT:**

- Supervisor- Liz Thomas
- 1<sup>st</sup> Deputy Supervisor- Nancy Zahler
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Deputy Supervisor- Michelle Wright
- Board members- Dave Kerness, Rich Goldman. John Hertzler
- Clerk- Carissa Parlato
- Environmental Planner- Darby Kiley

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

David West (Randall & West Consulting); Emelie Cuppernell (Consultant for the Residential Energy Scoring project); Nana Monaco and Elaine Springer (Winterfest coordinators)

**MEETING NOTICE:**

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 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA:**

**RESOLUTION 2015-137:**

BE IT RESOLVED that the Ulysses Town Board approve the agenda for September 22, 2015 with the following changes: change the title of the General Code adoption resolution; remove the steering committee update.

Moved: Ms. Thomas                      Seconded: Mr. Hertzler

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

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 9/22/15

**PRESENTATION:**

**Residential Energy Scoring Project**

Ms. Kiley introduced the project. Several municipalities, along with Cornell Cooperative Extension and Tompkins County Planning Department, collaborated on, and were awarded a NYSERDA grant to begin this project to develop a local home energy rating score. The goals of the project are to increase public awareness of home efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions and educate home buyers and consumers.

Ms. Cuppernell was hired as a consultant through the grant. She presented a Power-point presentation of the project, sharing their timeline, progress to date, challenges, best practices, etc.

Mr. Goldman asked who would do the rating. Ms. Cuppernell replied that a 3<sup>rd</sup> party would do it but the group was still working on how it would be paid for. They hope to have a program in place by the end of the first quarter of 2016.

Ms. Zahler inquired as to the rating scale- whether a higher or lower score is better. Ms. Cuppernell responded that nationally, both types of ratings are used. Locally, they are still trying to determine this.

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Mr. Goldman expressed concern that this program may widen the income gap because wealthier owners could take advantage of this opportunity to sell their homes for more. Ms. Thomas added that NYSERDA has had funding in the past for low-income assistance of this kind.

Mr. Kerness wondered the cost would be for a homeowner to get their home rated. Ms. Cuppernell estimated that it would be less than \$300.

Ms. Thomas wondered if a prior home energy audit information could be used. Ms. Cuppernell answered that it was possible.

Mr. Kerness asked if the energy scoring programs in other states were mandatory or voluntary. Ms. Cuppernell said that it is voluntary in Vermont but mandatory in Connecticut. Ms. Thomas questioned how it could mandatory for Connecticut not so here. Ms. Kiley answered that it is difficult for a town or county to assert a mandate but it could be done at the state level.

Mr. Hertzler emphasized that hiring a navigator (like the healthcare navigator) would be crucial to getting lower income populations involved.

Ms. Zahler suggested that recommendations be made to the state to help support the program. Ms. Thomas added that municipalities can do this via resolution or by contacting state representatives.

Mr. Kerness stated that funding may be the program's biggest challenge.

Ms. Cuppernell completed her presentation and left at 8:40pm.

### **PRESENTATION:**

#### **Zoning Update from Consultant**

Mr. West of Randall + West introduced himself. His firm has been selected to consult on the town's zoning update. He gave an overview of the project and its schedule, as well as the strategies that they use for decision-making and engaging the public.

Mr. Goldman inquired how the planning board will interface with this project. Ms. Thomas responded that a steering committee composed of members from the Town Board, Planning Board, Board of Zoning Appeals and community members is being formed.

The board discussed whether/how the goals for Jacksonville might intersect with this project.

Mr. West completed his presentation and left at 9pm.

### **PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

Ms. Springer introduced herself as new coordinator for Winterfest along with Ms. Monaco. The board asked questions and commented on past festivals as well as future plans. Ms. Springer noted that the festival will take place on Saturday, Dec. 5.

### **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Ms. Thomas shared the following:

- She has been participating in a shared services committee focusing on courts with a goal of streamlining the local court system.
- The Dept. of Transportation has notified her that they will be putting in a truck brake check area on Route 96 south of Perry City Road.
- The village has encountered an issue with their second water source system whose main will reach the village via Falls Road (which is in the town). Once more information is received, the board can move ahead on informing Falls Road residents.
- Bill Davis (MRB engineer) and Steve Maybee (Dept. of Health) will attend the Oct. 13 meeting to give an update on TTHM (total trihalomethanes) levels.
- She has been working on the tentative budget, which should be finished by week's end.

Mr. Hertzler pointed out another house in the town that seems to be abandoned. Mr. Goldman would like to discuss the process for dealing with these properties.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **SET PUBLIC HEARING FOR LOCAL LAW NO. 2 -2015:**

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**A LOCAL LAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE CODIFICATION OF THE LOCAL LAWS, ORDINANCES AND CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS OF THE TOWN OF ULYSSES INTO A MUNICIPAL CODE TO BE DESIGNATED THE “CODE OF THE TOWN OF ULYSSES”**

**RESOLUTION 2015-138:**

WHEREAS the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses has entered into a project for the codification of local laws, ordinances and certain resolutions of the Town of Ulysses for the purposes of increasing the effectiveness of town governmental administration, providing for greater public awareness of and access to town legislation and protecting the health, safety and welfare of town inhabitants; and

WHEREAS the proposed codification has been published in loose-leaf form and the Town Board now desires to formally effect the adoption of said codification by enactment of a local law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that a public hearing be held by the Town Board with respect to enactment of the following local law, such public hearing to be held on the 27th day of October, 2015, at 6:30 p.m., in the Town Hall, Town of Ulysses, New York. The proposed local law to be considered is as follows:

**LOCAL LAW NO. 2-2015:**

**A LOCAL LAW TO PROVIDE FOR THE CODIFICATION OF THE LOCAL LAWS, ORDINANCES AND CERTAIN RESOLUTIONS OF THE TOWN OF ULYSSES INTO A MUNICIPAL CODE TO BE DESIGNATED THE “CODE OF THE TOWN OF ULYSSES”**

Copies of the text of the above-named local law shall be filed in the office of the Town Clerk.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk is hereby directed and authorized to cause public notice of said hearing to be given in accordance with the Municipal Home Rule Law, the Open Meetings Law and §§ 264 and 265 of the Town Law of the State of New York.

Moved: Ms. Thomas                      Seconded: Ms. Zahler

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

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 9/22/15

**SOLAR REGULATIONS:**

Ms. Kiley distributed the proposed solar regulations with the Attorney for Town’s comments.

The board gave their comments and made amendments.

**RESOLUTION 2015-139:**

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses approves the solar regulations draft amended by the Town Board on 9/22.

Moved: Mr. Hertzler                      Seconded: Ms. Zahler

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

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 9/22/15

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**NEW BUSINESS:**

**SET DATES FOR ADDITIONAL TOWN BOARD MEETINGS TO REVIEW THE 2016 BUDGET:**

**RESOLUTION 2015-140:**

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Ulysses sets meetings to review the 2016 budget for the following dates and times: Thursday, Oct. 8 at 8am; Thursday, Oct. 15 at 8am; and Thursday, Oct. 22 at 7pm.

Moved: Ms. Thomas                      Seconded: Mr. Goldman

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

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 9/22/15

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES 9/8:**

**RESOLUTION 2015-141:**

RESOLVED that the Town Board of Ulysses approve the minutes of 9/8 as edited by Ms. Zahler.

Moved: Ms. Zahler                      Seconded: Mr. Goldman

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

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 9/22/15

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Ms. Thomas moved to go into Executive Session at 9:30pm to discuss matters leading the appointment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person. This was seconded by Mr. Goldman and passed unanimously.

Ms. Zahler moved to end Executive Session at 9:46pm, seconded by Mr. Goldman and passed unanimously.

**ADJOURN:**

Mr. Goldman made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:46pm, seconded by Mr. Kerness and passed unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted by Carissa Parlato on 9/29/15.*