

Draft- not yet approved **TOWN BOARD MEETING**

Town of Ulysses

April 23, 2024

The meeting was held in person at the Town Hall at 10 Elm St., Trumansburg NY as well as via Zoom videoconference. Notice of Town Board meetings are posted on the Town's website and Clerk's board.

*Video recordings of meetings are available on Youtube at
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWVIs--q9CpHlxdk9YxZyPw>.*

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Olson called the meeting to order at 7pm.

ATTENDANCE:

TOWN OFFICIALS:

Supervisor- Katelin Olson

Board members- Mary Bouchard, Michael Boggs, Rich Goldman, Liz Weatherby

Town Clerk- Carissa Parlato

Bookkeeper- Blixxy Taetzsch

Second Deputy Supervisor/Budget Officer- Michelle E. Wright

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:

In person-

Roxanne Marino, Linda Liddle, Becky Sims (RCAP Solutions representative), Amy Panek,
Jennifer Ge, Alicia Long

Via Zoom-

Matt McKenna (engineer, MRB Group), Maddy Vogel

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion:

Ms. Bouchard requested to add discussion of the town providing insurance for a skatepark facilitated by Mr. Woodring. Ms. Olson and Ms. Wright responded that it would not be currently covered and would be odd for the town to cover someone else's program but would gather more information.

Mr. Boggs moved to approve the agenda as presented. This was seconded by Ms. Weatherby and passed unanimously.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

(none)

PRESENTATION: BECKY SIMS, RCAP SOLUTIONS:

Ms. Sims shared a presentation on the results from the Water Source Protection Plan Committee's (WSPPC) water survey (see attached).

Highlights of her presentation included:

- Background on the survey
- How it was distributed

- Who responded- 348 households
- Results:
 - Well water is town residents' primary source of drinking water
 - Most don't know how old or how deep their well is
 - Water quantity- 13% did not always have enough
 - Quality- avg rating is fair but mostly weighted to poor and very poor quality
 - Some quality issues could have health impacts
 - Treatment- most are spending money to treat their water
 - Municipal water interest- 60% interested with willingness to pay various amounts
 - Concerns about the water supply- considerable concern mostly with manure & fertilizer or drought/flood

The board thanked Ms. Sims.

Mr. Goldman inquired about remedies for fertilizer issues from farms. Ms. Sims said it can be hard to demonstrate fertilizer is a cause and also hard to make a change due to NYS not regulating it. However, the county health dept can help if manure is spread close to a well.

Ms. Weatherby added that in comp plan interviews the consultants suggested that education for farmers is helpful. Ms. Sims also recommended reaching out to the soil & water office for help.

Ms. Marino said that the WSPPC will be getting a new NY Rural Water specialist... She responded to this survey and the protection plan is public education and information that some things can be tested for every year (e-coli & nitrates).

PRESENTATION: 2023 FINANCIAL YEAR REVIEW:

Ms. Wright & Ms. Taetzsch shared a presentation (see attached). Ms. Wright said that this analysis is hand-crafted so the board should let her know if other information is desired.

Discussion of end of year estimates.

Highlights:

- Results of operations
- Reserves
- Fund balance
- Capital assets
- Analysis of each fund

OLD BUSINESS:

ARPA PROCUREMENT AND PROCESS UPDATE; TENTATIVE ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

Ms. Olson reminded everyone that the board identified 6 items to investigate further with regards to whether it could be funded by ARPA, knowing that we will not be able to fund everything. (See memo attached.)

Mr. McKenna shared information on MRBs estimates (both pervious and impervious pavement) for the town hall parking lot.

He clarified that “utility” referred to the power infrastructure for the parking lot but not necessarily light fixtures.

They don’t see impervious pavement very often due to the associated maintenance- it needs to be swept/cleaned or the surface will plug.

Normal asphalt rebuild will require 16-18” excavation but permeable/pervious will require about 3-4 ft of stone sub-base as well as reservoir and storage of the water that it traps. Geotechnical tests will be needed to ensure that the soil will take the water/ water will infiltrate the soil. Also requires trucking to remove all the material.

Mr. Boggs said that asphalt gets recycled nowadays so it is more sustainable.

Mr. Mckenna said that you cannot add sand or salt for ice to the pervious pavement.

Ms. Olson said that she recommends that a new non-permeable pavement parking lot gets funded by ARPA and the town starts work on this project ASAP. Legal costs will also need to be incurred due to the shared portions of the lot. She also suggests that the remaining funds be spent on known security upgrades.

Mr. Boggs would prefer to seed each project rather than using it all for the parking lot. Ms. Olson said that the parking lot will take up a lot of administrative time and it is not reasonable to try to work on all the projects at once and the other projects can be budgeted for or by using fund balance.

Mr. Goldman, Ms. Bouchard agree to prioritize the parking lot. Ms. Weatherby is concerned that the parking lot estimate could increase as time goes on.

Ms. Olson requested permission to start on the parking lot tomorrow and once costs are confirmed then make decisions on other projects if there is money left over.

Mr. Goldman moved to commit the funds to the parking lot

Mr. Boggs said that this project doesn’t benefit that many people. Ms. Olson noted that the parking lot offers the only ADA accessible entrance to the town hall.

RESOLUTION #77 of 2024:

RESOLVED that the Ulysses Town Board directs the Town Supervisor to oversee the necessary scoping and contractual work necessary to proceed with the parking lot project as identified through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) review process.

Moved: Mr. Goldman Seconded: Ms. Bouchard

Friendly amendment- language

Olson aye
Boggs aye

Bouchard aye
Goldman aye
Weatherby aye

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 4/23/24

NEW BUSINESS:

CONSENT AGENDA OF RESOLUTIONS # 78-79:

RESOLUTION #78 OF 2024: AUTHORIZATION TO SIGN LETTER OF INTENT FOR VOLVO L90H LOADER

WHEREAS, the Highway Superintendent has received a quote for a Volvo L90H Loader, dated 2/16/2024 for the total purchase price of \$141,431, for the replacement of the 2019 Case Loader (# NJF244037), inclusive of all required accessories, which is a planned purchase per the Highway Capital Equipment Plan; and

WHEREAS, the source for this purchase and quote is via Sourcewell and through a vendor who has been awarded a New York State Piggyback Contract through the NYS Office of General Services Procurement Services (contract # PC69437), and per the Town's Procurement Policy and General Municipal Law §103(3), purchases made using County or State contracts are exceptions to competitive bidding requirements, now therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign a letter of intent to purchase the Volvo L90H loader.

RESOLUTION #79 OF 2024: APPOINTMENT AND ESTABLISHMENT OF PAY RATE FOR RECREATION SPECIALIST

RESOLVED, that the Ulysses Town Board approves hiring Zak Kozlowski to fill the open Recreation Specialist position at a pay rate of \$22/hour for an average of 15 hours per week beginning April 29, 2024; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the probationary period is set for one year after date of hire.

Moved: Mr. Goldman Seconded: Ms. Bouchard

Olson aye
Boggs aye
Bouchard aye
Goldman aye
Weatherby aye

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 4/23/24

APPROVAL OF GENERIC ESCROW AGREEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT OR PLANNING PROJECTS

RESOLUTION #80 OF 2024: APPROVAL OF GENERIC ESCROW AGREEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT OR PLANNING PROJECTS

RESOLVED, that the Ulysses Town Board approves the generic escrow agreement for development or planning projects in the Town of Ulysses, which enables professional and/or legal services (i.e. consultant costs) to be paid for by the applicant per Town of Ulysses Zoning Code § 212-6 “Fees for permits.”

Moved: Mr. Goldman Seconded: Ms. Bouchard

Olson aye
Boggs aye
Bouchard aye
Goldman aye
Weatherby aye

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 4/23/24

OLD BUSINESS:

FUND BALANCE POLICY

Ms. Taetzsch shared a draft policy. The board discussed the policy, with plans of bringing back a final version for approval.

JUSTICE COURT CONSOLIDATION – CONSIDERATION TO HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING

Ms. Olson noted that a public hearing is not required but is important to get public feedback. She added that NYS will provide a judge is out for a longer term.

RESOLUTION # 81 OF 2024: SCHEDULING PUBLIC HEARING ON THE REDUCTION OF THE NUMBER OF TOWN COURT JUSTICES FROM TWO TO ONE

WHEREAS, the Town of Ulysses currently has two Justices for the Town Court. The Town Board has determined that it will be in the best interests of the Town to reduce the number of Town Court Justices from two to one due to a reduction in revenue and reasonable case load for a single jurist, effective upon the expiration of Justice Thomas Schlee’s current term on December 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board desires to hold a public hearing with respect to the proposed reduction as stated hereinabove.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a public hearing will be held by the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses with respect to the proposed reduction of the number of Town Court Justices on May 14, 2024 at 7 p.m.; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause public notice of said hearing to be given as provided by law.

Moved: Mr. Goldman Seconded: Mr. Boggs

Rollcall vote called

Olson aye

Boggs aye
Bouchard aye
Goldman aye
Weatherby aye

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 4/23/24

PROPOSED AGRICULTURAL DISTRICT ALTERATIONS – CONCERNS BY ULYSSES PLANNING BOARD

Ms. Olson said that a property on Taughannock Blvd. in the town’s Conservation District is slated to be added to NYS Ag District #2. She said that she spoke with Legislator Koreman and at the 5/7 county meeting a final determination will be made by legislature.

Ms. Weatherby said that she believed that the town’s zoning (local law) will still be in effect even if the property it is added to the state district unless the property owner seeks an exemption from NYS.

Other board members questioned whether this was accurate. Ms. Olson agreed to get clarity and advocate whatever the board’s preference is to the county.

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 14 – Regular Meeting, 7pm @ Town Hall

May 27 – Town Offices Closed, Memorial Day

May 28 – Regular Meeting, 7pm @ Town Hall

June 6- All staff training

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

RESOLUTION #82 OF 2024: APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

RESOLVED, that the Ulysses Town Board approve the meeting minutes as presented from 4/9/24 Regular Meeting.

Moved: Mr. Goldman

Seconded: Mr. Boggs

Olson aye
Boggs aye
Bouchard aye
Goldman aye
Weatherby aye

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 4/23/24

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (3 min limit per person):

Ms. Liddle suggested for ARPA funds that it would be helpful to notify every group who is hoping to get funded that the board will consider their projects in 2025.

Ms. Marino thanked the board for thorough ARPA considerations and suggested that the well testing project can be paid for from the B fund. She added that if we qualify for Clean Energy funding we could receive up to \$60k; and we may be able to get funding for stormwater as well.

ADJOURN:

Mr. Goldman made a motion to adjourn at 9:22pm. This was seconded by Ms. Bouchard and passed unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted by Carissa Parlato, Town Clerk
5/9/24*

APPENDIX:

(items to be added once draft is approved)