



Town of Ulysses

SPRING NEWSLETTER

10 Elm Street, Trumansburg, NY • <http://ulysses.ny.us>

March 2014

Ulysses Municipal Boards

Town Board Meetings

2nd & 4th Tues at 7pm

Town Supervisor

Liz Thomas 387-5767 Ext. 232

Town Council Member

Rich Goldman 592-4673
 John Hertzler 220-3901
 Dave Kerness 227-0536
 Nancy Zahler 279-4792

Planning Board 1st & 3rd Tuesday at 7pm

Rod Hawkes—Chair
 Sarah Adams
 Stan Beames
 Brian Cutler
 Andy Rice
 Rebecca Schneider
 John Wertis Sr.
 Rich Garner (alternate)

Board of Zoning Appeals 3rd Wed. 7pm

George Tseleakis—Chair
 Andy Glasner
 Andy Hillman
 Bob Howarth
 Carl Mann

Ulysses Town Offices

387-5767 • Open Mon - Fri 8-4, Sat 9-12

Town Clerk

Carissa Parlato—Clerk Ext 221
 Patty Halloran—Deputy Ext 223

Highway Department

Jim Meeker—Superintendent 387-6230
 Dave Reynolds—Deputy

Town Court

387-5767
 Mon 1-6PM, Tues—Fri 8am-4pm
 Tom Schlee—Justice Ext. 225
 Mark Dresser—Justice Ext. 226
 Angela Champion—Court Clerk Ext. 224

Code Enforcement and Zoning

387-5767
 Alex Rachun—Building Inspector Ext. 231
 Darby Kiley—Planning & Zoning Ext. 222
 Rod Ferrentino—Fire Code

Accounting & Payroll

387-5767
 Mary Bouchard Ext. 227

Deputy Town Supervisor

Michelle E. Wright Ext. 234

Town Historians

John Wertis Sr. 387-4331
 Michele Mitrani 387-9466

What's Ahead for 2014

A new Town Board took office in January and is working hard on behalf of all the residents within the Town of Ulysses. The Town Board's list of work is indeed long. By state law, mandatory services must be provided to the public, but the discretionary work is often what defines our community and encompasses our core values—recreation, youth services, and historic preservation for example. The Town Board brainstormed and prioritized work they would like to accomplish in 2014. The following topics rose to the top of the priority list:

- Consider billing for Emergency Medical Services (EMS). This would generate some much needed income and if the Governor's tax freeze is put into place, the town simply must look at alternative revenue sources.
- Ease the permitting process for solar and wind turbines.
- Explore regulations of septic systems to ensure none leak into waterways.
- Partner with other municipalities and non-profits to find shared space for a community center.
- Find funds and take actions to preserve key historic structures within the town and village.
- Improve enforcement of zoning and building code to reduce the number of dilapidated and unsafe buildings and properties throughout the town.
- Seek funding for repair and maintenance of housing owned by low income residents.
- In anticipation of the Governor's tax freeze, weigh the benefits and drawbacks of consolidation with the Village. Continue to share services with neighboring municipalities.
- Seek ways to revitalize the hamlet of Jacksonville.
- Update the town's emergency management plan.
- Continue outreach to residents through newsletters, public forums, and the website.



While not specifically action items, the Town Board did emphasize its support of local parks and trails, the Ulysses Philomathic Library, the Community Science Institute, and the Trumansburg-Ulysses Joint Youth Commission. They also expressed the importance of following the guidance and goals of the Comprehensive Plan.

Do you have comments or suggestions? Contact us (see bar on left) or come hear more and give us your feedback and ideas at **the Ulysses Town Forum on Saturday, April 12 from 9-noon at the Ulysses Historic Society (see more info on page 4).**

STORMWATER

Why you should care

Stormwater runoff is rain water or snowmelt that doesn't soak into the ground. As rain water and snowmelt travel across parking lots, driveways, and streets, it picks up pollutants and soil on its way to Cayuga Lake or one of our lovely creeks, as well as wetlands and ponds. This pollution negatively impacts water quality, aquatic life and their habitat, and contributes to erosion and sedimentation.

What you can do

- Prevent leaks and spills of fuel, oil, or other hazardous waste.
- Landscape in ways that catch water and allow it to slowly percolate into the soil.
- Direct gutters and sump pumps across vegetated areas and not directly into ditches where water contributes to erosion and flooding during storm events.
- Minimize or avoid use of pesticides and fertilizers that can migrate to water bodies.
- Maintain your septic system—it is recommended that your system is pumped every 2-4 years.

It's the law

Local law requires responsible handling of stormwater and erosion protections:

1) Stormwater Management and Erosion and Sediment Control:

ulysses.ny.us/pdf/2007LocalLaw-3.pdf

2) Storm and Sewer System and Surface Water Protection:

ulysses.ny.us/pdf/2012LocalLaw-1.pdf

Hazardous Waste Collection:

Tompkins County is sponsoring a Household Hazardous Waste collection.

Dates are:

April 19, May 17, July 19, August 16,
October 18, November 15

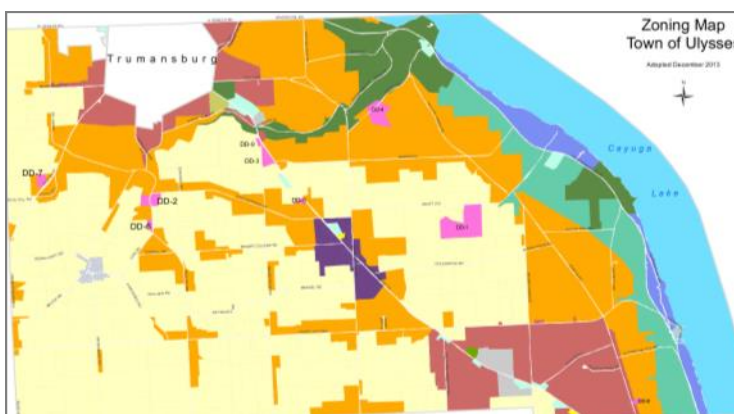
A valid permit and appointment are required. See the website for details: recycletomptkins.org/Garbage/Household-Hazardous-Waste

Zoning Updates

ALONG THE LAKE After many years of deliberation, the Town Board instituted new zoning rules this past December primarily focused in areas near Cayuga Lake. Using the town's Comprehensive Plan as a guiding document, the town strengthened protections of steep slopes and officially-designated *Unique Natural Areas*, by requiring a site plan review for new construction, a woodland management plan for tree harvesting, and increased stream setbacks in these areas.

The town also added a Marina District for the Yacht Club—matching its use more closely and allowing the club more flexibility should it choose to expand. Lands running along Route 89, but not adjoining the lake, have increased lot sizes—expanded from 2 to 5 acres—with larger road frontage and setback requirements, in an effort to preserve the woods and open spaces in that area.

What did not change in the zoning? There are no regulations covering docks, boat hoists or other structures in the water. The Cayuga Nature Center, Girl Scout Camp, and Taughannock Park remain designated as Parks and Recreation. See more information on the new zoning at ulysses.ny.us/departments/zone/



(this map is available at: http://www.ulysses.ny.us/pdf/Zoning_Map_2013.pdf)

NEARBY KRUM'S CORNERS Taking the lead from the Comprehensive Plan, the Planning Board and Town Board both agreed to carefully review the zoning along Route 96 near Krum's Corners which is currently zoned as Light Industrial and Business, surrounded by Moderate Density Residential. Considering the existing businesses in that area, the Comprehensive Plan suggests zoning that continues to create jobs for residents who live nearby, especially in the higher density nodes of Trumansburg and Jacksonville. The particular focus on offices and technology was recommended due to its relatively low impact on the land and nearby residents, while still contributing positively to the tax base. The plan suggests that any new business create a green buffer between themselves and residential areas to reduce annoyance from potential noise, light or other impacts. The area benefits from being on the public transit line; adding commuter traffic to the existing Route 96 flow is a concern.

There are numerous ways to follow or give input on this topic: join us at a meeting (days and times listed on the front of this newsletter), contact us directly, watch the Planning Board and Town Board agendas on the website, read the minutes, or listen to the audio available online. The public is welcome at all meetings.

Youth

Summer Sign-up Night

The Youth Commission will again be sponsoring Super Summer Sign-up night on Wednesday, May 7 from 6:30 - 8:00 in the Trumansburg Elementary School Cafeteria. Lots of summer camps, including our own Summer Recreation program, and other specialty programs offering services to children this summer will be on hand to explain their programs and register youth.

New Website!

A new website is underway for the Youth Commission with the objective of providing a single spot for all local youth related activities. It's under construction, but will be at <http://trumansburg.ulysses.ny.us>

Agriculture

Seeking Ag Committee Members

The Town of Ulysses adopted an Agriculture and Farmland Protection Plan in 2013. We want to thank all the committee members who contributed many volunteer hours to complete this document. Now that we have the plan, it's time for implementation. The Town Board is seeking residents who have a background in, or connection to, agriculture to help move the goals of the Ag Plan forward. If you are interested, please contact Liz Thomas at supervisor@ulysses.ny.us. See the Ag Plan at <http://ulysses.ny.us/pdf/AFPP-Final.pdf>

New Website Links Landowners and Farmers

Do you have land to rent for farming? Are you a farmer looking for land to rent? See the Landlink website at www.fingerlakeslandlink.org, a service connecting landowners to farmers.

Who Works for You

Town Hall has many new faces. The new Town Clerk, Carissa Parlato, started the job with the hectic flurry of tax collection. She is quickly acclimating to her new position and updating systems. John Hertzler and Richard Goldman are newly elected Town Board members. Each bring a new and useful perspective to the deliberations of the board. Also new to Town Hall is the appointed Deputy Supervisor, Michelle E. Wright who brings keen organizational and technical skills to the job, and is helping to dig out of a backlog of work piled up at Town Hall.

If you are a business in the town, Rod Ferrentino may pay you a visit. As the new Fire Inspector for the town, Rod will guide businesses to ensure fire prevention and safety measures are in place and that we comply with state rules.

The town's Planning Board has new members. Andrew Rice was appointed to a 7-year seat and Richard Garner serves as an alternate. The Board of Zoning Appeals also has two new members: Robert Howarth and Andrew Hillman. **We are incredibly grateful to these thoughtful and hard-working volunteers.**

The Town Historians are seeking names of Ulysses women who have made positive impacts on our town and/or county. Please send names to John Wertis, Town Historian: bwwfarmtoday@aol.com

Clerk's Corner

*Our office is open
M-F 8am to 4pm
Sat 9am-noon*

Tax Deadline

Residents have until March 31 to pay their taxes in the Town of Ulysses (a graduated penalty is added for taxes received after Jan. 31). The county collects on bills not paid by March 31. Contact us if you did not receive your bill in December.

Water Billing & Reduced Fee

The Town Board reduced the penalty on late water bills. Any bill left unpaid after 30 days from the billing date will be subject to a 10% fine (down from 20%) for that cycle. Water bills were sent out the week of March 17. The next billing cycle will be short; meters will be read on May 16 to coordinate with water readings from Bolton Point.

Have a Dog?

Dog licenses are valid for one year. Your renewal reminder will indicate if your dog's rabies vaccination has expired and if it has, please bring in, or mail, proof of a current rabies vaccination when you renew your license.

Sporting Licenses-New Rules

Fishing licenses are now valid from the day of purchase through one full year. They no longer expire on Sept. 30.

Adventure Licenses: lifetime hunting, fishing (or both) licenses are available. Instead of carrying a separate license, this information can be printed directly onto your driver's license. Purchase any sporting license directly from the DEC at aca.dec.accela.com/dec/. For more information on these changes, please visit www.dec.ny.gov/63.html

Jacksonville

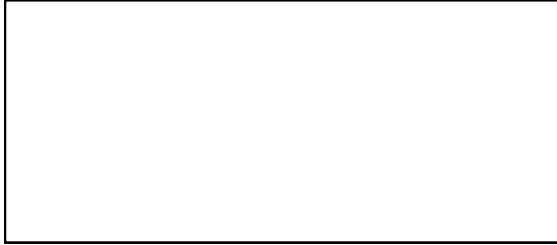
Committee on Revitalization

One of the top priorities for the Town Board is to identify ways to revitalize Jacksonville, but we need help from residents. If you are willing to serve on a committee to look at this issue, please contact our Town Clerk Carissa Parlato at clerk@ulysses.ny.us or 387-5767 ext 221.

Town of Ulysses
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Trumansburg, NY 14886



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State of the Village

The Village of Trumansburg Board of Trustees is holding a State of the Village event:

**Saturday, March 29 9:00 a.m.
Trumansburg Fire Station**

Topics include:

Update on water & sewer projects • Deer management options • Village Energy Evaluation and Climate Action Plan • Topics from the floor •

Town of Ulysses Forum:

Please Join the Ulysses Town Board

Saturday, April 12

Time: 9am—noon

Location: Ulysses Historical Society 39 South St. Trumansburg, NY

Please join the Ulysses Town Board for an overview of the state of our Town and a description of the board’s prioritized projects followed by questions and breakout sessions with Town Board members and staff to gather citizen feedback on the following topics:

- Water & water quality.
- Ambulance billing/charity policy for uninsured.
- New zoning considerations: review of the Office/Tech Mixed use, Open space, Ag and Farmland Protection.
- Alternative Energy and Sustainability- ideas, offers to help?
- Jacksonville revitalization and issues.

After Hours ‘Meet and Greet’ at Good to Go:

Same date: 5:00-7:00pm at Good to Go, 21 E. Main St., Trumansburg. Informal discussions with Town Board, elected officials, and staff. Local libations and snacks.

ELECTRONIC DELIVERY: Help us save time, money and resources.

Receive this newsletter and other notifications by email. Send your address to deputysupervisor@ulysses.ny.us