

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

Town of Ulysses

Feb. 14, 2023

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 7:04pm.

ATTENDANCE:

TOWN OFFICIALS

In person:

Supervisor- Katelin Olson

Board members- Michael Boggs, Liz Weatherby, Rich Goldman

Town Clerk- Carissa Parlato

Absent:

Board member- Mary Bouchard

OTHERS:

In person:

Vivien Rose

Via Zoom:

Anne Koreman, Marlaine Darfler, Roxanne Marino

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Motion:

Mr. Boggs moved to approve the agenda as presented at 7:04pm. This was seconded by Ms. Weatherby and passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:

(See separate minutes)

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR: (3 minute limit)

Ms. Rose drew attention to Women's History Month in March and noted that she created a proclamation based on research with local helpers. The proclamation recognizes achievements of local women (particularly Lydia Sears) with regard to local history. Additionally, an event is planned.

LIAISON & CHAIR REPORTS:

Ms. Koreman shared the following updates from Tompkins County:

- Her committee appointments for the year include:
 - Planning, Energy, & Environmental Quality (Chair)

- Housing and Economic Development
- Public Safety
- Workforce Diversity and Inclusion
- TC will get recertified as a Climate Smart Community
- The Planning Dept. is looking to create more affordable housing and asking for local munis for input
- The leg passed the volunteer firefighter/emergency services property tax exemption
- She is working to preserve historical red house in Ithaca
- A community task force is forming to assist with and transition incarcerated folks

Ms. Marino shared the following advisory committee updates:

CSAC:

- working toward recertifying the town as a Climate Smart Community
- Earth Day event activities on April 22 will include clean up, pollinators, electric vehicles, clean heating & cooling

Bee committee:

- April 18 pollinator panel discussion event

Source Water Protection Plan Committee:

- Looking to find a new facilitator through NYS Rural Water
- Have completed the first few steps in creating a protection plan
- Next phase is a water assessment but need technical consultant for this (will include a survey)
- Will share draft documents with board for approval

OLD BUSINESS:

SENIOR/DISABLED PERSON PARTIAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

RESOLUTION # 63 OF 2023: A LOCAL LAW ENTITLED AMENDING CHAPTER 174 OF THE TOWN CODE TO AUTHORIZE A PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR SENIOR AND DISABLED CITIZENS UNDER SECTION 467 OF THE NEW YORK STATE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW

WHEREAS, the Town has authority to adopt the local law referred to above (hereafter “the Local Law”) pursuant to Section 10 of the Municipal Home Rule Law; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2023 a public hearing on the question of adopting the Local Law was duly advertised for February 14, 2023 at 7:00 pm; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on February 14, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. by the Town of Ulysses at 10 Elm Street, and all parties in attendance, either in person, via Zoom, or through written comments sent to the Town Clerk, were permitted an opportunity to speak or otherwise express themselves in favor of or in opposition to the Local Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED THAT the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses hereby adopts the Local Law entitled “Amending Chapter 174 of the Town Code to Authorize a Property Tax Exemption for Senior and Disabled Citizens Under Section 467 of the New York State Real Property Tax Law”.

Moved: Mr. Goldman

Seconded: Mr. Boggs

Olson aye
Boggs aye
Bouchard absent
Goldman aye
Weatherby aye

Vote: 4-0

Date Adopted: 2/14/23

VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER/EMS PARTIAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION

RESOLUTION # 64 OF 2023: A LOCAL LAW ENTITLED “AMENDING CHAPTER 174 OF THE TOWN CODE TO AUTHORIZE A PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND VOLUNTEER AMBULANCE WORKERS UNDER SECTION 466-A OF THE NEW YORK STATE REAL PROPERTY TAX LAW”

WHEREAS, the Town has authority to adopt the local law referred to above (hereafter “the Local Law”) pursuant to Section 10 of the Municipal Home Rule Law; and

WHEREAS, on January 27, 2023 a public hearing on the question of adopting the Local Law was duly advertised for February 14, 2023 at 7:05 pm; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing was held on February 14, 2023 at 7:05 p.m. by the Town of Ulysses at 10 Elm Street, and all parties in attendance, either in person, via Zoom, or through written comments sent to the Town Clerk, were permitted an opportunity to speak or otherwise express themselves in favor of or in opposition to the Local Law;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED THAT the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses hereby adopts the Local Law entitled “Amending Chapter 174 of the Town Code to Authorize a Property Tax Exemption for Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers Under Section 466-a of the New York State Real Property Tax Law.”

Moved: Mr. Boggs Seconded: Ms. Weatherby

Olson aye
Boggs aye
Bouchard absent
Goldman aye
Weatherby aye

Vote: 4-0

Date Adopted: 2/14/23

NEW BUSINESS:

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION FORMATION

RESOLUTION #65 OF 2023: AUTHORIZING THE FORMATION OF A LOCAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

WHEREAS, the Towns of Covert and Ulysses, and the Village of Trumansburg (together, the “Municipalities”), have collectively engaged in discussions with the State of New York and the Boy Scouts concerning an opportunity to manage the property known as “Camp Barton” for public recreation and other purposes; and

WHEREAS, in those discussions, the joint creation of a local development corporation to manage Camp Barton was considered, as it would provide, among other things, flexibility and efficiency in management decisions and operations, attorneys for the Municipalities have prepared a draft certificate of incorporation and bylaws that provide a governance structure for a local development corporation, copies of which are incorporated herein as Exhibit “A”; and

WHEREAS, the proposed certificate of incorporation and bylaws have been considered by the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Town Board hereby (1) approves and authorizes the execution and filing of the Certificate of Incorporation of the Three Falls Local Development Corporation, pursuant to New York State Not-for-Profit Law Section 1411; (2) approves and authorizes the execution of the Bylaws of the Three Falls Local Development Corporation; (3) appoints Katelin Olson and Richard Goldman (pending employer approval) as Directors of the Three Falls Local Development Corporation, to serve until December 31, 2023; and (4) that the Town Board approves an initial membership fee of \$20,000 and appropriates such amount from the Unappropriated Fund Balance to pay such fee; and be it further

RESOLVED that the foregoing acts are a Type II action pursuant to the New York State Environmental Quality Review Act; and be it further

RESOLVED that the Supervisor of the Town of Ulysses is hereby authorized to do all things necessary and appropriate in order to effectuate the foregoing.

RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect upon either the Town of Covert or the Village of Trumansburg approving a resolution substantively authorizing those same acts approved herein.

Moved: Mr. Boggs

Seconded: Ms. Weatherby

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Bouchard	absent
Goldman	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 4-0

Date Adopted: 2/14/23

PROJECT ASSISTANT APPOINTMENTS

Ms. Olson noted that the original plan for a single position has changed due to the Rural Youth Services Program Manager vacancy. This has resulted in funding available for 2 project assistants.

RESOLUTION #66 OF 2023: PROJECT ASSISTANT APPOINTMENTS

RESOLVED, that the Town Board hereby appoints Rachel Kennedy and Molly Duell to the position of Project Assistant at a pay rate of \$22/hour for no more than 19/hours each per week through the remainder of 2023.

Moved: Mr. Boggs

Seconded: Ms. Weatherby

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Bouchard	absent
Goldman	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 4-0

Date Adopted: 2/14/23

RECOGNITION OF WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH AND FLYING OF WOMEN’S HISTORY FLAG

RESOLUTION #67 OF 2023: RECOGNITION OF WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH AND FLYING OF WOMEN’S HISTORY FLAG

WHEREAS, National Women’s History Month has been celebrated throughout the United States since 1987; and

WHEREAS, the 2023 theme is “Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories;” and

WHEREAS, “Celebrating Women Who Tell Our Stories” encourages recognition of women in every community, past and present, who devoted their lives and talents to reflect the human condition through the decades in all forms of media and storytelling, including art, music, print, radio, TV, stage, screen, blogs, podcasts, and more; and

WHEREAS, Jessie Tucker Agard (1944-1962), Lydia Godfrey Sears, (1963-1974), Carolyn A. Martin (1974-8, 1980-1983), Phyllis C. Lutes (1978-1980), Esther Northrup (1984-2006), Karen Dickson (2006-2009), and Nancy Dean (2010-2013) served as Town Historian; and

WHEREAS, Town residents Carolyn A. Martin, Nancy Dean, Arliss Robinson, Ellen Hall, Hope Bower, and Lydia Sears (in advisory capacity) were appointed as members of the Town Bicentennial Committee in 1974, and Nancy Dean appointed to represent Ulysses on the County Bicentennial Committee; and

WHEREAS, Town residents Ruth Wolverton, Marion Hoffmire, Gertrude Carman, Georgianna Stevenson, Isobel Duddleston, Hope Bower, and Ellen Hall established the Ulysses Historical Society in 1975 to collect and tell the stories of the Town of Ulysses; and

WHEREAS, Jean T. Agard, author of JACKSONVILLE COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH: A HISTORY 1790-1946; Ruth Farrell, editor, VOICES OF OUR PAST: ULYSSES HISTORICAL SOCIETY ORAL HISTORY PROJECT (2005); Peggy Haine, S.K. List, Lydia G. Sears and Susan Ulrich, authors of articles re: Trumansburg in many local papers; Virginia James, author of A BRIEF HISTORY OF TRUMANSBURG AND THE ULYSSES PHILOMATHIC LIBRARY (1966);

Phyllis C. Lutes, author of A HISTORY OF TRUMANSBURG NY (1955) and CONTINUING HISTORY OF TRUMANSBURG 1967-1981 (no pub date); Carolyn A. Martin, author of TRUMANSBURG NEW YORK INCORPORATION CENTENNIAL (1972); Harriet M. Swick, compiler of genealogical material now held by the Ulysses Historical Society; and Mary Duddleston Zimmer, author of CURTAINS UP ON MY STAGE: REVISITING A FINGER LAKES CHILDHOOD (2011), among others, have told the stories of the Town of Ulysses; and

WHEREAS, Lydia Godfrey Sears (1899-1978) made, documented, preserved and recorded the history of Ulysses, re-establishing the Ulysses Philomathic Library (1935), founding a collection of historic clothing known as the “Costume Bureau,” serving as Regent, Chief Taughannock Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution (1937-1939), teaching 3rd grade at Trumansburg Central School District (1946-1963), writing local history articles for the *Trumansburg Free Press* (1954-1962), serving as Town of Ulysses Historian (1963-1974), and writing A HISTORY OF TRUMANSBURG 1792-1967 (privately published, 1968); and

WHEREAS, Ulysses Town Board recognized Lydia Godfrey Sears’ “unmeasurable contribution to the cultural, educational and historical life of the Town and its residents,” in its February 14, 1978 meeting; and

WHEREAS Lydia Godfrey Sears epitomizes “Women Who Tell Our Stories” in the Town of Ulysses;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that the Town of Ulysses recognizes March 2023 as “Lydia Godfrey Sears Women’s History Month,” and encourages residents of the Town of Ulysses to recognize this month with appropriate celebrations, commemorations, and events, and to preserve the histories of their own female relatives and ancestors of the Town of Ulysses by seeking and recording their female relatives’ stories and collecting and depositing historical materials related to them in the Ulysses Historical Society Museum; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, approves the Town Supervisor to purchase and display the Women’s History flag for the month of March per the Town of Ulysses Flag Policy.

Moved: Mr. Goldman

Seconded: Ms. Weatherby

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Bouchard	absent
Goldman	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 4-0

Date Adopted: 2/14/23

STAFF/BOARD UPDATES:

Ms. Olson shared the following:

- After a long process, the IT committee (Linda, Mary, Carissa, MEW) has identified an IT contractor to recommend to the board at next meeting

- Both adult and youth rec programs are running and successful
- Fire/EMS contract payments will be sent tomorrow. Additional discussions are planned to address concerns for rising costs

Mr. Boggs shared that he is going to the AOT conference on Sunday.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Feb. 20- town offices closed
 February 28 – Regular Town Board meeting

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

RESOLUTION # 68 OF 2023: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the Ulysses Town Board approve the meeting minutes from the January 24, 2023 regular meeting and public hearing as presented.

Moved: Mr. Boggs Seconded: Ms. Weatherby

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Bouchard	absent
Goldman	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 4-0
 Date Adopted: 2/14/23

BUDGET MODIFICATIONS:

RESOLUTION # 69 OF 2023: BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

RESOLVED, that the Ulysses Town Board approves budget modifications as presented (see Appendix).

Moved: Ms. Olson Seconded: Ms. Weatherby

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Bouchard	absent
Goldman	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 4-0
 Date Adopted: 2/14/23

PAYMENT OF CLAIMS:

RESOLUTION #70 OF 2023: PAYMENT OF CLAIMS

RESOLVED that the Ulysses Town Board has reviewed and approves payment of claims for vouchers numbered 22 through 81 in the amended amount of \$835,174.73.

Moved: Ms. Olson Seconded: Mr. Boggs

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Bouchard	absent
Goldman	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 4-0

Date Adopted: 2/14/23

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (3 min limit per person)

Ms. Rose asked about the LDC (Local Development Corporation) bylaws, wondering if other counties or private entities are eligible to participate. Ms. Olson said that the members would need to unanimously vote them in.

The board discussed the LDC further.

Ms. Marino feels strongly that AOT must vote in favor of home rule as it has an important function and was integral to disallowing hydrofracking in our community.

ADJOURN

Mr. Goldman made a motion to adjourn at 8:26pm. This was seconded by Ms. Weatherby and passed unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted by Carissa Parlato, Town Clerk
2/21/23*

APPENDIX:

BUDGET MODIFICATIONS:

2022 Budget Modifications Requested at Town Board Meeting 2/14/2023

SW4 FUND BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

1	Account #	Account Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Budget Mod Request	Post Modification Budget
	SW4-8320.4	WATER PURCHASES CE	\$ 500.00	Increase	\$ 164.94	\$ 664.94
<i>Increased water use billed out to users and offset by billing revenue.</i>						

Account #	Account Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Budget Mod Request	Post Modification Budget
SW4-2140	METERED WATER SALES	\$ 500.00	Increase	\$ 164.94	\$ 664.94
<i>See above.</i>					

HA FUND BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

1	Account #	Account Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Budget Mod Request	Post Modification Budget
	HA 1620.21	Engineer CE	\$ 6,033.31	Increase	\$ 0.25	\$ 6,033.56
<i>Insignificant overage.</i>						

Account #	Account Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Budget Mod Request	Post Modification Budget
HA 1620.22	Legal & Bonding CE	\$ 1,260.48	Decrease	\$ 0.25	\$ 1,260.23
<i>See above.</i>					