

DRAFT- TOWN BOARD MEETING

Town of Ulysses

Jan. 13, 2026

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--q9CpH1xdk9YxZyPw>.*

CALL TO ORDER:

Ms. Olson called the meeting to order at 7:06pm.

ATTENDANCE:

TOWN OFFICIALS:

In person-

Supervisor- Katelin Olson

Board members- Michael Boggs, Tom Knipe, Steve Manley, Liz Weatherby

Town Clerk- Carissa Parlato

Via Zoom-

Roxanne Marino (Comp Plan Steering Committee (CPSC), Conservation & Sustainability Advisory Committee (CSAC)), Linda Liddle (Planning Board)

OTHERS:

In person-

Eric Slocum (arrived 7:18pm)

Via Zoom-

Mikayla Rovenolt

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mr. Boggs moved to approve the agenda as amended. This was seconded by Mr. Knipe and passed unanimously.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Mikayla Rovenolt introduced themself as a local journalist.

PUBLIC HEARING- 2026 FIRE DISTRICT CONTRACT:

Ms. Olson noted that this hearing is required by law.

Ms. Weatherby moved to open the hearing at 7:10pm. This was seconded by Mr. Boggs and passed unanimously.

Hearing no comments, Mr. Manley moved to close the hearing at 7:11pm. This was seconded by Mr. Boggs and passed unanimously.

MUNICIPAL BOARD & STAFF REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS (written reports provided)

YOUTH COMMISSION:

Mr. Manley said that the group is beginning to prep for summer camp/programming. Last year's camp was in high demand and they are expecting the same this year. He noted that it is always a struggle to figure out where and when to hold all of the programs.

THREE FALLS:

Ms. Olson said that the last meeting discussion included use of space for the summer given the current limitations of no potable water or bathroom facilities. A draft plan is being formulated with input from NYS Parks. A website is being created for the LDC. Once the park is officially named it will be part of the NYS Parks website.

COMP PLAN:

Ms. Weatherby shared that a meeting and Public Hearing are scheduled for 1/14. Land use and the future land use map (FLUM) are also on the agenda. They are hoping to have an updated draft for the public by end of month.

DOT/CULVERT PROJECTS:

Ms. Olson said that they have not been able to move forward on projects (like Curry Road culvert replacement) due to months of hold-ups at DOT. It may not go to construction until 2027.

She added that the Garrett Road contract has been signed and they're now waiting to hear back about a 2nd funding request. The next step is creation of an RFP for engineering design and to hopefully be able to hire one engineer for all the projects.

OLD BUSINESS:

APPROVAL OF 2026 FIRE DISTRICT CONTRACT

Ms. Olson noted that the amount that the town pays to the village for fire protection is based on assessment and call volume. The total cost of this makes up about 40% of the town's tax levy.

RESOLUTION #38 OF 2026: APPROVAL OF 2026 FIRE CONTRACT

WHEREAS, a fire protection district known as the "Fire Protection District of the Towns of Ulysses, Hector and Covert" (hereafter referred to as "the Fire Protection District") has been duly established in the said towns; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Protection District encompasses the following territory in the Town of Ulysses: All of the Town of Ulysses, excepting the area within the limits of the incorporated Village of Trumansburg; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Trumansburg (hereafter referred to as "the Village") maintains a volunteer fire department, with adequate and suitable apparatus, equipment and training for the furnishing of fire protection services within the Fire Protection District; and

WHEREAS, Town Law §184 permits a town to contract with a village which maintains adequate and suitable apparatus and appliances for the furnishing of fire protection services in such fire protection district; and

WHEREAS, the Town wishes to contract with the Village to provide fire protection services in the Fire Protection District; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing as required by §184 of the Town Law was duly advertised on December 14, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Public Hearing was held on January 13, 2026 at 7pm and all members of the public wishing to share their opinions in person or in writing had the opportunity to do so;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses hereby approves and authorizes execution of the attached Agreement between the Village and the Town, whereby the Village will provide the Town with fire protection capable of responding to fire related and health related emergencies on an ongoing basis within the Fire Protection District, for the period from January 1, 2026 until December 31, 2026; and be it further

RESOLVED that, pursuant to the Agreement, the Town shall pay the Village the sum of \$287,461 for such services and the bill will be paid no later than February 15, 2026; and be it further

RESOLVED that, the Supervisor of the Town of Ulysses is hereby authorized to execute the Agreement on behalf of the Town of Ulysses.

Moved: Boggs Seconded: Knipe

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Knipe	aye
Manley	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 1/13/26

RFP FOR SOLAR ARRAY

Ms. Olson recognized Ms. Marino for helping secure funds for this project. She added that Taitem engineering helped determine the town's energy needs. The goal is to have panels installed by the end of 2027. A big unknown cost is the connection to the NYSEG grid.

RESOLUTION #39 OF 2026: AUTHORIZING AN RFP FOR GROUND-MOUNTED SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEM

WHEREAS, the Town of Ulysses was awarded a NYSERDA Clean Energy Communities grant for the installation of a solar energy system; and

WHEREAS, NYS Energy Law 9-103 exempts from the requirements of competitive bidding energy performance contracts, which include the installation of solar energy systems;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Supervisor is authorized to issue an RFP for a ground-mounted solar energy system in the form **attached hereto**.

Moved: Boggs Seconded: Knipe

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Knipe	aye
Manley	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 1/13/26

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. Olson noted that the Tompkins County Soil and Water contract will be held until next month to give board members a chance to review as it wasn't posted online.

AUTHORIZATION FOR SUPERVISOR TO SIGN ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH INSERO FOR ANNUAL AUDIT

RESOLUTION #40 OF 2026: AUTHORIZATION FOR SUPERVISOR TO SIGN ENGAGEMENT LETTER WITH INSERO FOR ANNUAL AUDIT

RESOLVED, the Ulysses Town Board authorizes the Town Supervisor to sign the engagement letter with Insero for the Town's annual audit.

Moved: Weatherby Seconded: Manley

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Knipe	aye
Manley	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 1/13/26

SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING ON CHARTER FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

RESOLUTION #41 of 2026: SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING ON CHARTER FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

WHEREAS, an application has been duly made to the Board of the **Town of Ulysses, County of Tompkins**, New York, by **Spectrum Northeast, LLC**, an indirect subsidiary of Charter Communications, Inc. ("Charter"), a limited liability company organized and existing in good standing under the laws of State of Delaware doing business at 815 Erie Blvd E, Syracuse, NY 13210, for the approval of a renewal agreement for Charter's cable television franchise for fifteen (15) years commencing with the date of approval by the Public Service Commission; and

WHEREAS, the franchise renewal agreement would bring the franchise into conformity with certain provisions of the Federal Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984, as amended, and certain court rulings

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Ulysses Town Board schedules a public hearing for the Charter Franchise Agreement for January 27, 2026 at 7:00pm at Town Hall, and hereby directs the Town Clerk to notify the public of this hearing in the official newspaper of record as well as in other manners in keeping with public notification, where all members of the public wishing to address the Town Board will have an opportunity.

Moved: Manley Seconded: Boggs

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Knipe	aye
Manley	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 1/13/26

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 19 – Town Facilities Closed for MLK Jr. Day

January 27 – Regular Town Board Meeting & Public Hearing, 7pm @ Town Hall

February 10 – Regular Town Board Meeting, 7pm @ Town Hall

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

RESOLUTION #42 of 2026: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the Ulysses Town Board approves the minutes as amended from the 12/9 Regular Meeting and the 12/30 Special Meeting.

Moved: Weatherby Seconded: Knipe

Friendly amendment to remove 12/30 minutes.

Moved: Weatherby Seconded: Knipe

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Knipe	aye
Manley	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 1/13/26

BOARD NOTIFICATIONS:

Ms. Olson noted that this agenda section relates to the procurement policy. The supervisor is allowed to approve spending up to certain amounts and then notify the board.

PAYMENT OF AUDITED CLAIMS:

RESOLUTION #43 of 2026: PAYMENT OF AUDITED CLAIMS

Resolved that the Ulysses Town Board approves payment of the following audited claims:

- Abstract 13 of 2025 totaling \$68,946.13
- Abstract 1 of 2026 totaling \$918,076.25

Moved: Olson Seconded: Weatherby

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Knipe	aye
Manley	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 1/13/26

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

none

ADJOURN:

Mr. Knipe made a motion to adjourn at 8:25pm. This was seconded by Mr. Manley and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Carissa Parlato, Town Clerk, 1/26/26

APPENDIX:

Included:

- Staff reports
- Solar RFP