

TOWN OF ULYSSES
REGULAR TOWN BOARD MEETING
JUNE 8, 2010

Present: Supervisor Roxanne Marino; Council persons David Kerness, Kevin Romer, Elizabeth Thomas and Lucia Tyler absent; Town Clerk Marsha L. Georgia; Highway Superintendent James Meeker; Deputy Supervisor Sue Poelvoorde; Attorney Mariette Geldenhuys.

Others Present: Ed Sawester, Debbie Watkins Village Trustee, Diane Hillman, Bill Chaisson Free Press reporter and Ithaca Journal reporter Aaron Munzer.

Supervisor Marino called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and led those assembled in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Ms. Marino moved, seconded by Mr. Kerness the following:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses approve the minutes as edited for the Regular Town Board meeting of May11, 2010 and the two (2) Special Board meetings on March 27 & 29, 2010.

Ms. Marino aye
Ms. Thomas aye
Mr. Romer aye
Mr. Kerness aye

Adopted

APPROVAL OF BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

Ms. Marino moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas the following:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses approve the following 2010 Budget modifications:

Budget Modifications

A Fund

Appropriation line 1920.4 Municipal Association Dues increase \$925

Appropriation line 7450.4 Historical Society CE increase \$ 35

Appropriation line 5132.2 Town Barn Capital decrease \$960

B Fund

Appropriation line 9040.8 Workers Comp increase \$ 165

Appropriation line 1990.4 Contingency decrease \$ 165

SW3

Appropriation line 8340.2 Transmission/Distribution EQ increase \$ 395

Appropriation line 9040.8 Workers Comp increase \$1086
Appropriation line 8340.4 Transmission/Distribution CE decrease \$1481

Ms. Marino aye
Ms. Thomas aye
Mr. Romer aye
Mr. Kerness aye

Adopted

APPROVED CLAIMS

Ms. Marino moved, seconded by Ms. Thomas the following:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses approve the previously examined vouchers in the amount of \$13,920.31.

Ms. Marino aye
Ms. Thomas aye
Mr. Romer aye
Mr. Kerness aye

Adopted

PRIVILEGE OF FLOOR

Bill Chaisson said he had been working on a story about the Village sewage problems and was speaking with Steve Penningroth of the Community Science Institute in regards to funds he had requested from the Town in the amount of \$5000. Mr. Penningroth was complaining that he had never received these funds and his understanding was they were put into the budget. Mr. Chaisson said that he thinks it is a good program and a good value.

Ms. Marino said that the Town did receive a letter from Mr. Penningroth reminding the Board that they would like \$5000 for the stream monitoring and it will be on the agenda in July.

REPORTS OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tompkins County Representatives neither Mr. Dennis nor Sheriff Meskill were present.

Trumansburg Fire Department

A written report was submitted from the Trumansburg Fire Department and Mr. Romer had distributed it to the Board.

Trumansburg Village

Ms. Watkins said she had nothing to report. But she did say the Village had contracted the Boy Scouts about four locations for drilling test wells for a second source and the Village has to prepare a proposal for the Boy Scouts by June 23rd so they can present it to their Board and then will go from there. The update on the sewer; the Village received a letter from DEC where they had six recommendations for the Village Sewer Plant; the Village is going forward with two of them, two are coming up for a vote by the Village Board and the other two the Village will follow through with discussion.

TOWN REPORTS

Highway Superintendent James Meeker reported on the activities of the Highway Department for the month. Mr. Meeker announced, at the Highway School he is attending, they got word that the CHIPS money is coming through from the State.

Town Clerk Marsha L. Georgia reported the monthly fees for May. The quarterly water bills were mailed out.

Code Enforcement Alex Rachun was absent and left his monthly report with the Board. He also included a letter received from Tompkins County Health Department that the Cayuga Nature Center had applied for and received a permit for camping for the summer of 2010. Mr. Rachun advised the Health Department that the Nature Center did not meet the fire safety requirements under NYS Building Code and that the Nature Center would be in violation of the Code. The Health Department has since revoked the camping permit and Mr. Rachun has met with the Director of the Nature Center and discussed what needed to be done to meet the requirements for camping in the buildings.

Planning Board - no report.

Agricultural and Farmland Protection – Ms. Thomas said that they will be meeting on the 17th of June. Ms. Marino said that at that meeting a representative from Bergman will attend to facilitate the meeting toward the goal of getting the necessary information together to draft part of the plan.

Citizens Advisory Board on Gas Drilling – Ms. Thomas said that all of the people that are on the Ulysses Advisory Board are working with the TCCOG gas drilling task force and they have all elected to be on the land use sub-committee. The next meeting is June 10th.

Supervisor Marino previously distributed to the Board copies of the Fund operating statements and after the Board gets a chance to look it over she will be glad to answer any questions. Ms. Marino also wrote a report on the operating statements and reviewed this with the Board.

Ms. Marino also reported that at the TCCOG meeting a presentation was given by April Scheffler representing the Tompkins County Clerks Association on dog licensing because the State is getting out of the dog licensing business.

Deputy Supervisor – Ms. Poelvoorde reported that she has been working on the MS4 annual report for Stormwater. She feels that she has finished the report and she will review before mailing it to the State and putting it on the Town’s web page. There has to be a Public Hearing on the report.

The Board set a date for the Public Hearing to be held July 13th at 7: pm prior to the Regular Board meeting.

Town Board Members and Committees

Ms. Thomas said it is unclear to her who are the voting members at the Trumansburg EMS committee.

Mr. Romer said he is going to ask for minutes for these meetings. Mr. Romer asked if there has to be a Local Law for the Town to go to billing.

Ms. Geldenhuys said earlier she had circulated a memo about this that she would review, but thought that the Town would have to pass a Local Law.

Mr. Romer said that there are a lot of unanswered questions still to be addressed.

Ms. Thomas said that a draft should be established.

Ms. Watkins suggested that the Task Force put a draft together.

8:25 PM OLD BUSINESS

Health Care Consortium Reserve Capitalization

Ms. Marino had previously distributed information to the Board. One issue is the union matter and she heard at the most recent Health Care Consortium Board meeting that has been resolved. The other issue is that if the 2.2 million dollars in reserves the State is requiring must come from municipal assets, then the Consortium Board would like to have the option for some of its members to pay their share of the reserves over time (5 years) when they can build this expense into their budgets. The Consortium has requested NYSID allow this process to meet the necessary reserves.

The minimum to achieve the needed reserves in 2010 to begin operation, IF all municipalities could pay the full amount right now and IF the State will allow capitalization over 5 years requires \$2,096 from Ulysses. It would be very helpful to the Consortium if the municipalities could pay the full Prorated in 2010 (\$10,478 for Ulysses), or even more than that if there were the cash in Fund Balance (A and DA funds can be used for this).

The Board discussed authorizing payment of the full Prorated of Total Reserves, or possibly more, should the Consortium be allowed to begin operation in 2010. Ms. Marino believes the Town has the funds for the \$10,478 without a problem, and can consider more. Ms. Marino said

that the Board can refer to the summary sheets she distributed to them for the May 11 meeting, with the YE Fund Balances (A and DA).

After a long discussion by the Board, Ms. Thomas moved the following:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses would be willing to tentatively commit a contribution of \$10,478 and possibly go up as high as \$40,000 based upon how the money will be paid back over time to the Town. Mr. Kerness seconded this.

Ms. Marino aye
Ms. Thomas aye
Mr. Romer aye
Mr. Kerness aye

Adopted

8:51 pm Special Events Permit

The Board reviewed the permit application along with Ms. Geldenhuys. There were many changes made to the application. Ms. Poelvoorde volunteered to work with Mr. Rachun to update the application and bring it back to the Board.

Town Website – update on response to quotes

The Town has received three quotes from the following:

Holly Bailey \$1,600
Susan Henninger 2,980.
Judith Pratt 8,860.

The Board discussed the quotes in detail.

Ms. Marino and Ms. Poelvoorde will review the quotes and look at the sites that they referred to in their quotes. The Board tabled action on this.

Delta Engineering / RUA

Ms Marino said that she had heard a presentation from Delta. The Town of Newfield is having Delta come and do a presentation on June 10th at 7 pm and this could be a good opportunity for any Ulysses Board member to listen to more details.

NEW BUSINESS

Analysis of Town Zoning / Comprehensive Plan

Ms. Marino said the contract was signed with Bergmann for this review and part of that included one meeting with representatives in the Town – Town Board members and other representatives that use the Zoning Law on a regular basis or who are looking at particular aspects of it to get an overall idea as to what's working and what's not . Kimberly Baptiste of Bergmann will be doing that meeting, scheduled for June 21st at 9 am. Ms. Marino and Mr. Kerness will attend along with Ken Zeserson, PB Chair, Mr. Rachun, Code Enforcement officer, the Chair of the Lake Shore Zoning Committee Don Smith, John Wertis, Chair of the Ag & Farmland Protection, Rod Hawks, PB member, and Ms. Poelvoorde.

Request from Cayuga Breeders – WD#3

The Town received a letter from the attorney for Cayuga Breeders, asking about the possibility that Water District #3 could reduce the number of units they are charged for water on their tax bill. They are currently charged for 10 units and they are not hooked up and use no water. They are also requesting an explanation as to how units were defined and why they are assigned 10 units... This number was originally established by the engineer and is in the original Map Plan and Report.

Ms. Marino has asked Ms. Georgia and Mr. Austic to pull out any information they have and both contacted Eric Pond to see if he had any additional information.

Ms. Geldenhuys has looked the available information over and researched the possibility of changing unit allocations in a special water district and if so what the process would be. Ms. Geldenhuys said that the district was formed through Article 12A (Town initiative). Ms. Geldenhuys has also contacted the NYS Association of Towns and so far has found that under Article 12A there is no provision to change the Map Plan and Report after district approval. Ms. Geldenhuys will look into this further and draft a letter of response to the Cayuga Breeders attorney.

Public Comments

Ms. Watkins asked if anything further had been done with the Town of Ithaca and water.

Ms. Marino said that this will be the main topic for discussion at the June 23rd meeting.

9:41 pm Other

Schedule Meetings for June / July/ August

2nd Board Meeting in June rescheduled to June 23rd at 6:30 pm from the original date of June 22nd.

7/13, 2010 is still a good date for the Regular Town Board meeting. The Public Hearing for the annual Stormwater on 7/13 at 7pm.

2nd Board meeting in July will be July 29 at 7 pm.

The August Regular Town Board meeting moved from August 10th to the next week on August 16th at the same time. No second meeting scheduled at this time.

Appointment of Intern

The Board discussed hiring an intern for additional help.

Ms. Thomas moved, seconded by Ms. Marino the following;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses appoint Eliza Newman as Project Assistant at \$12 per hour up to a 30 hours per week.

Ms. Marino aye
Ms. Thomas aye
Mr. Romer aye
Mr. Kerness aye

Adopted

Hearing no further business Ms. Marino moved, seconded by Mr. Romer to adjourn the meeting. Unanimously approved and meeting adjourned at 10:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha L. Georgia
Ulysses Town Clerk

MLG: mlg