

TO: Town of Ulysses Supervisor and Town Board members
FROM: Darby Kiley, Environmental Planner
DATE: May 4, 2017
RE: Environmental Planner Report for May 9, 2017 Town Board Meeting

Planning Board

The PB discussed the draft ag/rural zoning on April 18 and May 2, and completed a memo to the zoning steering committee. On May 2, the PB re-approved an expired site plan for a residence on the lake. The PB also reviewed the Inn at Taughannock variance proposal, which include several sign variances and variances for setback along Gorge Rd and building height.

Board of Zoning Appeals

The BZA approved two variances on April 19: a sign variance for the Halsey House, and a front yard setback variance on Kraft Rd. They also passed resolutions on the draft ag/rural zoning.

Grants

Zoning Updates Grant – The steering committee discussed the Jacksonville zoning on April 6, 17 and May 4.

Salo Drive Land Acquisition – Waiting for a contract from the State.

Clean Energy Communities – three of the four required High Impact Actions were submitted. One of the items was the unified solar permit for which we received \$2,500 on 5/4. Once the fourth action item is submitted and approved, the Town is eligible for \$100,000 or \$50,000 in grant funding.

Other Meetings/Issues

Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization (IO) – 4/26: Discussed the wrap-up on the restoration and protection plan grant and steps for when the next grant contract is available.

Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) – 4/28: A representative from NYSERDA (Brad Tito) attended the meeting and answered questions regarding CCAs in other locations and potential statewide policies.

ITCTC – 4/18: the Council discussed a number of budget amendments for projects.

Pictometry training – 4/18: attended training on a mapping resource available in the county.

Planning Advisory Board (PAB) – 4/26: Presentation on structural landscape connectivity and resilience in Tompkins County; discussion on draft recommendations from the county housing strategy.

Residential Energy Score Project – 4/13: Nick Goldsmith was a featured speaker on a NYSERDA webinar and reported on this project.

Solar PILOT – Liz and I continue to learn more about this process and how to proceed with a payment in lieu of taxes agreement for a project in Ulysses. Attended a workshop on solar and taxation on 4/11.

Stormwater Coalition of Tompkins County (SWC) – 4/26: Presentation on culvert database developed by EFC for the Towns of Ulysses and Caroline; discussed annual report, trainings and outreach/advertising.

Water Resources Council (WRC) – 4/17: the council were shown a demonstration on Cornell's soil health trailer.