

ULSTER TOWN BOARD MEETING
MAY 16, 2005 AT 7:00 PM

CALLED TO ORDER BY SUPERVISOR WADNOLA, CHAIRMAN

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL BY CLERK

TOWN COUNCILMAN ARTIST
TOWN COUNCILMAN VAN KLEECK
TOWN COUNCILMAN BRINK
TOWN COUNCIL MEMBER WISE
SUPERVISOR WADNOLA

CORRESPONDENCE

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council Member Wise reported, from the Buildings and Grounds Committee, that the coil for the A/C unit at the Town Hall (downstairs area) is broken. The part has to be custom made and hopefully will be installed before summer.

Councilman Artist reported, from the Town Finance Committee, that the monthly abstract was reviewed Saturday, May 14, 2005.

Councilman Van Kleeck reported, from the Highway Department, that the final date for the flood debris collection aid has been set to June 1, 2005 as recommended by FEMA.

Councilman Brink reported from the Water and Waste Water Committee, that Ryan Weishaupt will switch from the Sewer Department to the Water Department effective April 12, 2005. He will be at the same step, grade and pay.

Councilman Brink motioned to hire Allen Winchell at the waste water treatment plant at a rate of \$9.25 per hour, pending him passing the required drug, alcohol and respirator tests. He will not be able to start work until all the tests have been passed.

2nd by Councilman Van Kleeck

A Roll call Vote was taken - All Ayes

Councilman Brink motioned to hire Christine Godbey to train as the water/waste water account clerk at a rate of \$9.25 per hour effective May 17, 2005.

2nd by Councilman Van Kleeck

A Roll call Vote was taken - All Ayes

Council Member Wise reported from the Parks and Recreation Committee, that the work in the parks is moving along and the parks are looking better.

Councilman Artist reported from the Information Service Committee that the new computers were set up at the Town Highway Complex and everything is running fine.

ULSTER TOWN BOARD MEETING
MAY 16, 2005 AT 7:00 PM

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Town Clerk's Office – The monthly report was read.

Sewer Department – Supervisor Corey Halwick thanked his crew for their excellent work during the flood. The monthly report was read.

Water Department – The monthly report was read.

Town Assessor – The Town Assessor inspected 306 houses. UPS discontinued their suit against the township. The NYS Flood Tax Relief bill was passed in the Assembly and is on its second reading in the NYS Senate. This bill offers property tax relief after the cut off date for assessment revisions.

Building Department- The monthly building report was read.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Councilman Brink motioned to approve the minutes of April 4, 2005 and April 18, 2005 2nd by Councilman Van Kleeck

All Ayes

ABSTRACT OF CLAIMS

Councilman Artist motioned to approve the following:

FUND	CLAIM #	AMOUNT
UTILITIES		
GENERAL	501-529	\$ 8,060.69
ULSTER WATER	501-504a	\$ 494.79
HALCYON PK. WATER	501	\$ 396.51
SPRING LAKE WATER	501-502	\$ 160.23
BRIGHT ACRES WATER	501	\$ 218.02
WHITTIER SEWER	501-502	\$ 1,097.71
ULSTER SEWER	501-507	\$ 13,200.98
SPECIAL LIGHT	501-506	\$ 2,825.77
ALL OTHERS		
GENERAL	501-5138	\$ 187,287.58
HIGHWAY	501-540	\$ 39,232.07
WHITTIER SEWER	501-506	\$ 2,699.90
ULSTER SEWER	501-538	\$ 37,284.32
ULSTER WATER	501-525	\$ 76,109.97
HALCYON PK. WATER	501-502	\$ 1,481.00
SPRING LAKE WATER	501-503	\$ 29,221.20
BRIGHT ACRES WATER	501-503	\$ 1,416.58
CHERRY HILL WATER	501-503	\$ 2,408.10
GLENERIE WATER	501-504	\$ 3,025.00
INSURANCE (ALL FUNDS)	501-516	\$ 78,687.33
CAPITAL PROJECTS		
TRUST & AGENCY	501-509	\$ 21,449.00

ULSTER TOWN BOARD MEETING
MAY 16, 2005 AT 7:00 PM

BRIGHT ACRES WATER

GLENERIE WATER	501-502	\$	900.00
DRAINAGE PROJECTS	501-505	\$	4,887.12
EAST KINGSTON WATER	501-505	\$	30,473.50
WASHINGTON AVE. SEWER	501-502	\$	1,185.00
	TOTAL	\$	544,202.37

2nd by Councilman Van Kleeck

A Roll Call Vote was taken – Four Ayes – Council Member Wise absented

To accept the Glenerie Water Project as substantially complete per certificate of substantial completion dated April 25, 2005.

Supervisor Wadnola read and motioned to approve the following:

Resolution that the Town Board of the Town of Ulster accepts the Glenerie Water Project as substantially complete as per the Certificate of Substantial Completion issued on April 25, 2005. The Town Board recommends a final payment to Merritt Construction.

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Ulster is the governing body of the Town of Ulster and is responsible for the supervision and operation of Special Districts within the municipality and,

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Ulster has the responsibility for the supervision and operation of the Glenerie Water District.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Town Board of the Town of Ulster accepts the Glenerie Water Project as substantially complete as per the Certificate of Substantial Completion issued on April 25, 2005. The Town Board recommends a final payment to Merritt Construction to close the project.

2nd by Council Member Wise

A Roll Call Vote was taken – All Ayes

To raise Spring Lake Water rates per Kingston Water Dept. notice

Supervisor Wadnola read and motioned to approve the following:

Resolution to increase the water rate for the Spring Lake Water District as per the agreement between the Kingston Water Department and the Town of Ulster

Whereas, the Town Board of the Town of Ulster has an agreement with the Kingston Water Department where the rates for the Hillside Acres/Spring Lake Area are recalculated annually and,

Whereas, the Kingston Water Department has informed the Town of Ulster that there will be an increase in the water rate effective with the fourth quarter 2005 billing,

ULSTER TOWN BOARD MEETING
MAY 16, 2005 AT 7:00 PM

Now, therefore, be it resolved that starting the 4th billing quarter of 2005 the water rates for the Spring Lake Water District will be

1st 4000 gallons = 45.25

over 4000 gallons = 8.05 per thousand

2nd by Councilman Artist

A Roll Call Vote was taken – All Ayes

To amend Section 458-2 of the Real Property Tax Law to include a provision for Gold Star Parents

Supervisor Wadnola read and motioned to approve the following:

Resolution to amend the current Alternative Veterans Exemption for Town of Ulster Residents to include the Gold Star Parents Provision pursuant to New York State Law.

WHEREAS Section 458-a of the Real Property Tax law of the State of New York authorizes local government to enact a resolution granting partial exemption from property taxes for residential property owned by persons who were enlisted in the Armed Services of the United States of America that meet the statutory qualifications as prescribed by law, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ulster Town Board has previously increased the assessment ceiling for the New York State Veterans' Real Property Exemption to \$180,000.00, the highest allowed by the New York State Real Property Tax Law, and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ulster Town Board wishes to amend Section 458-a pursuant to subdivision 7 of the New York State Real Property Tax Law to include a Gold Star Parent (i.e., parent of a child who died in the line of duty while serving in the United States Armed Forces during a period of war) within the definition of "qualified owner" as set forth in RPTL-a (1) (c), and to include property owned by a Gold Star Parent within the definition of "qualifying residential property" as set forth in RPTL 458-a (1) (d), provided that such property shall be the primary residence of the Gold Star Parent. The additional exemption provided for in RPTL 458-a (2) (c) shall not apply to real property owned by a Gold Star Parent, and

WHEREAS, the increase in the tax rate due to the passage of this resolution will be minimal to the Town's taxpayers, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town of Ulster Town Board hereby amends the Veterans' Exemption 458-a under New York State Real Property Tax Law to include the Gold Star Parent Provision as set by New York State Law.

This resolution shall take effect for the 2006 Assessment Roll and subsequent 2007 Tax Roll and will continue until amended by the Town of Ulster Town Board.

2nd by Councilman Van Kleeck

A Roll Call Vote was taken – All Ayes

ULSTER TOWN BOARD MEETING
MAY 16, 2005 AT 7:00 PM

Councilman Artist motioned to go into executive session at 8:35 PM for the purpose of litigation for Lowes and for union matters
2nd by Councilman Van Kleeck
All Ayes

Councilman Van Kleeck motioned to adjourn executive session at 8:55PM
2nd by Councilman Artist
All Ayes

Council Member Wise motioned to approve the following:

LOWES VS. TOWN OF ULSTER RESOLUTION OF LITIGATION

WHEREAS the Lowe's Corporation has filed a certiorari petition against the Town of Ulster for the 2003 and 2004 assessment roll years, and

WHEREAS the Town of Ulster in defense of its assessment roll has incurred significant expense, and

WHEREAS the petitioner in the Lowe's vs. the Town of Ulster has been ordered by Judge Kavanaugh to refund to the Town of Ulster \$9,500.00, and

WHEREAS the petitioner has chosen to appeal the Supreme Court decision, and

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town of Ulster Town Board authorizes the Assessor of the Town of Ulster to instruct David Hagstrom, Esq. to offer a 50% split of the \$9,500.00 to avoid going the New York State Appellate Court.

2nd by Councilman Van Kleeck
A Roll Call Vote was taken – All Ayes

Council Van Kleeck motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:00 PM
2nd by Council Member Wise
All Ayes

Respectfully Submitted by
Jason Cosenza, RMC
Ulster Town Clerk