

ULSTER TOWN BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2008 AT 7:00 PM

CALLED TO ORDER BY SUPERVISOR WOERNER, CHAIRMAN at 7 PM

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL BY CLERK

TOWN COUNCILMAN DAVID BRINK
TOWN COUNCILMAN JOEL B. BRINK
TOWN COUNCILMAN ERIC KITCHEN
TOWN COUNCILMAN ROCCO SECRETO
SUPERVISOR NICKY B. WOERNER

PUBLIC COMMENT

Robert Barton – He is opposed to the Town donating \$5,000.00 to the Kingston Public Access (KPA).

Lisa Alt, KPA Chairperson, thanked the Town for their pending contribution to the KPA.

Bob Smith, member of the KPA, thanked the Town for their pending contribution to the KPA and noted the importance of the KPA as a source of information to the public.

Joseph Marchetti, member of the KPA – He thanked the Town Board for the infusion of money to the KPA.

Jeremy Blaber – He reported on some of the benefits the KPA has given to the Town of Ulster with the services rendered, such as flood information.

Sue Kesick – She is not in favor of public money being contributed to the KPA and feels private funding is more appropriate.

Pat Metzger – She feels that the Town is giving the lion's share of the money needed to keep the KPA running. She inquired about the Town representation.

Lisa Alt reported that the town has one representative, as well as the other towns that KPA reaches. The City has more representatives.

Clark Richters – He offered to tape events in the Town of Ulster.

Steve Williams – He spoke in favor the KPA and expressed its importance as an information source to the public, especially to older people.

Nancy Smith – She spoke in favor of the KPA and the donation that the Town is offering.

Carol Kerny – She is working to compose a show geared for children and seniors on the KPA and is in favor of the town's donation of money.

James Simmons – He inquired about the Time Warner Agreement and if there are any accommodations in the contract negotiation for the KPA. He further inquired if there are any clauses for matching funds or fundraising as he is concerned that the KPA will faultier when the town's donation runs out. He is in favor of the Town offering funding for KPA with a structure in place for continuing funding through the contract and with other municipalities contributing. Supervisor Woerner stated that there has been discussion about including the KPA in the contract and that there are no requirements in place to receive the money. He had some discussion with the KPA about its future.

Mary Ann Parker – She suggested compromise and listening to all people. She thought the changing of the KPA to another name to represent all the viewing areas is a good suggestion. She spoke in favor of the town's contribution, understood if the town wanted to donate a different

ULSTER TOWN BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2008 AT 7:00 PM

amount after listening to the residents and encouraged the Town to reach out to the other municipalities to contribute as well.

Tim Morrison – He spoke in favor of the donation to the KPA and encouraged people to participate in the programming.

Reno Budziak – He is in favor of public access as long as it has appropriate content and it enriches the public's knowledge base (No smut).

Lisa Alt – Stated that the KPA has no control over the content and it does offer safe harbor viewing hours.

Robert Barton – He feels that the KPA should be funded privately.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Councilman David Brink motioned to accept the minutes of January 17, 2008.

2nd by Councilman Secreto

All Ayes

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman Secreto reported from the Parks and Recreation Committee that the biddy basketball league had to schedule some make-up meets. A league dinner is scheduled for the Hillside Manor. An Easter Egg hunt is due to be scheduled. He requested that the Town Clerk post notice for the summer park and recreation jobs.

Councilman Secreto, on behalf of Finance Committee, thanked Nelson White and David Brink for their work in reviewing the abstract.

Councilman Secreto thanked from the Highway Committee, the Highway Department for their work in cleaning up the park and removing trees.

Councilman Joel Brink reported from the Water and Waste Water Committee, that he had received several complaints about potholes along 9W. He stated that the black top plants are closed for the season and only cold patch can be applied.

Councilman Secreto reported from the Building and Grounds Committee, that he and Councilman Joel Brink had a meeting with Brinner and Larios about the proposed new Post Park Pavilion. The pavilion will have a metal roof, lights around the pavilion and handicap accessible bathrooms. He thanked Vinny Decker from the Sheriffs Department for his crew's work on painting the rooms in the Town Hall. He is looking for the Boy Scouts to perform an Eagle Project to build a cooking pavilion to replace the one the town had taken down.

Councilman Secreto reported from the Insurance and Safety Committee, that he will be submitting the paper work to the insurance company to get reimbursed for the large pavilion replacement costs.

Councilman David Brink report from the Assessor and the Building, Planning and Zoning Committee, that building in the Town is slow. The new clerk in the building Department is working well. Supervisor Woerner added that the Texas Road House Grill is under construction at the Dena Marie Plaza.

ULSTER TOWN BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2008 AT 7:00 PM

Councilman David Brink reported from the Assessor, Building and Planning Committee that the building department is working on clearing up the expired permits list.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Assessor – James Maloney reported that the office is busy with the exemption processing, the building permit inspection and the STAR program. His office will have extended office hours to allow people to come in on the off hours to process their STAR applications. He thanked Nelson White for accepting his invitation for a ride along for the town assessment inspections of building permits. He has gone out to the firehouses to educate people on what the best exemption process would be. He thanked Nancy France and Lt. Joseph Sinagra for keeping him informed on the potential flood risk that occurred while he was away at the Association of Towns Conference.

Building Department – Paul Economos read the monthly report. There have been some drainage complaints that have been forwarded to the Highway Department. This problem has been contributed to the high amount of rainfall for the month. He is in the process of serving the owner of the old Nelson Property about the unsafe building on the property. He will place public notices on the buildings when the weather breaks.

Town Clerk – Mr. Cosenza reported that the office is busy with the tax collection process. The Town's property tax warrant was settled with the town.

Supervisor Woerner motioned to authorize the Town Clerk to attend the NY State Town Clerk's Conference, from April 27-30, for the amount of \$699.00
2nd by Councilman Kitchen
All Ayes

Supervisor Woerner motioned to set a public hearing for HUD for March 6, 2008 at 6:30 PM, on the Community Development Block Grant Program addressing community development needs and priorities and the second HUD hearing for March 20, 2008 at 6:30 PM for the more specific grant proposal in the amount of \$400,000
2nd by Councilman Joel B. Brink
All Ayes

Highway Department – Highway Superintendent, Frank Petramale, reported that the department was busy with the weather problems including rain, flooding and snow. He reported that he is working with Town Engineer to address various problems in the town. All is moving along.
Water Department – Paul Vogt, Town Water Superintendent, reported that all is running well with the exception of several water breaks. The town is still working on getting a site for the East Kingston Water Tank.

Police Department – Police Chief Paul Watzka read the monthly report. The town has received a few grants and even a night scope. There were several local children safety outreach programs offered. He would like to put some of the programs, such as neighborhood watch, senior programs and child safety seat programs, on the KPA.

ABSTRACT OF CLAIMS

Councilman David Brink motioned to approve the following

ULSTER TOWN BOARD MEETING
 FEBRUARY 21, 2008 AT 7:00 PM

FUND	CLAIM #	AMOUNT
UTILITIES		
GENERAL	201-219	13,520.63
ULSTER WATER	201-204	422.45
HALCYON PK. WATER	201	568.77
SPRING LAKE WATER	201-202	239.60
BRIGHT ACRES WATER	201	270.52
WHITTIER SEWER	201	1,615.95
WASHINGTON AVE. SEWER	201	116.94
SPECIAL LIGHT	201-206	3,357.38
ALL OTHERS		
GENERAL	201-2169	157,105.30
HIGHWAY	201-243a	75,127.99
WHITTIER SEWER	201-202	110.00
ULSTER SEWER	201-224	83,629.65
ULSTER WATER	201-225	126,079.44
HALCYON PK. WATER	201	4,895.00
SPRING LAKE WATER	201-202	25,026.90
BRIGHT ACRES WATER	201-203	2,325.17
CHERRY HILL WATER	201	4,855.48
GLENERIE WATER	201	3,589.95
EAST KINGSTON WATER	201	1,469.07
INSURANCE (ALL FUNDS)	201-239	219,016.98
CAPITAL PROJECTS		
TRUST & AGENCY	201-204	8,632.50
BRIGHT ACRES WATER	201	5,036.92
E. KNG. WATER LATERALS	201	1,200.00
	TOTAL	\$ 738,212.59

2nd by Councilman Secreto
 A Roll Call vote was taken – All Ayes

Discussion: Robert Post Park Pavilion.

Councilman Joel B. Brink moved to approve the following resolution:

Whereas; the pavilion structure at Robert Post Park in the Town of Ulster collapsed under a snow load condition and had to be removed by emergency contract, and

Whereas; the replacement of the structure is a Type 2 action with respect to the State Environmental Quality Review Act and an Environmental Assessment is not required, and

Whereas; plans and specifications for the replacement of the pavilion structure have been prepared by Brinnier and Larios, P.C., Professional Engineers of Kingston, N.Y., and

ULSTER TOWN BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2008 AT 7:00 PM

Whereas; reconstruction of the pavilion is in the public interest.

Therefore, be it resolved that Contract TU-081, "Replacement of Pavilion at Robert Post Park" be advertised for bids in accordance with the General Municipal Law.

2nd by Councilman David Brink and Councilman Kitchen
A Roll Call Vote was taken - All Ayes

Going out to bid for Salt and Chemicals for 2008

Supervisor Woerner motioned to authorize the Town Clerk to go out to bid for salt and chemicals for the Town of Ulster Water and Whittier Sewer District.

2nd by Councilman Secreto
All Ayes

The demolition of the property of Louis Plotnick on 136 John Street & Thomas Heavey on 20 Steward Lane

Town Attorney, Andrew Zweben, reported at a prior meeting that he was unable to reach any member of the family for the Plotnick Property. The daughter heard through friends who had read the local paper and was able to make contact. She will remove the building. He has sent some correspondence to some new addresses for the Heavy Property. He is working on getting the job done cooperatively to save the town money.

Councilman Secreto requested that the Town Building Inspector add protective fencing around the Plotnick property to prevent people from going in there.

There was a discussion about the value of the Heavey property being located near the thruway. Mr. Zweben empathized that the primary goal is to have the owner resolve the safety problem. Supervisor Woerner reported that the removal of the building will most likely involve the town going out to bid.

Authorizing an appropriation of \$5,000.00 to Kingston Area Public Access for 2008.

Supervisor Woerner had heard about KPA and he investigated the matter. The KPA has no money. He had met with the KPA and reviewed their plan to remedy the situation. The town charges a franchise fee to people who subscribe to Time Warner service. He feels KPA is an important service and the town can afford to give a small amount of the fee (tax) back to the KPA. He encouraged the Town Board to vote yes to send a message to other communities by leading in donating money. He feels the sticking point in KPA is the word Kingston.

Councilman Kitchen feels, after taking input from the local residents, that private donations are the best way to fund KPA and donated \$250 to them. He is not against KPA but is against the way KPA is being funded.

ULSTER TOWN BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 21, 2008 AT 7:00 PM

Councilman Joel B. Brink expressed concern about giving money to KPA and having them fold in a few months.

Councilman Secreto feels that it is a source for seniors to have access to information.

Councilman David Brink feels KPA allows people access to express their views.

Supervisor Woerner agreed to donate \$500.

Supervisor Woerner motioned to give Kingston Public Access \$5,000.00

2nd by Councilman Secreto

A Roll Call Vote was taken – 4 Ayes – Councilman Kitchen voted Nay

Bruce Whistance submitted a petition to the Town to request NYS formalize the “jug handle” on the NYS Route 28 between the Hurley Mountain Road and the north end of the guide rail separating northbound traffic for safety purposes.

Supervisor Woerner stated he has reviewed the petition and the item will be scheduled for the March 6 Agenda for discussion.

Robert Barton requested a blasting map for Callanan Industries. Town Clerk Cosenza will provide a copy of it.

Clark Richters thanked the Town Board for their donation to the KPA.

Tim Morrison – He thanked the Town Board for their donation and reported that the KPA is in the process of finalizing a 501-C3, so it will become a charitable organization.

Mary Ann Parker - She stated that she has contacted Assembly Cahill’s Office for a grant as there are many people who are homebound and can’t go to church or have little access to information.

Mr. Brooks – He requested that more police be hired. He thinks Frank Petramale and the Highway Department are doing a good job. The new gentleman, Steve Williams, at the Transfer Station is doing a good job as well. He further feels James Maloney is doing a good job and was glad he is elected as County legislator.

Councilman Joel B. Brink motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:33 PM

2nd by Councilman Secreto

All Ayes

Respectfully Submitted by
Jason Cosenza, RMC FHCO
Ulster Town Clerk