

ULSTER TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP  
MARCH 6, 2008 AT 7:00 PM

**CALLED TO ORDER BY SUPERVISOR WOERNER, CHAIRMAN at 6:30 PM for the  
NY Small cities public hearing**

**SALUTE TO THE FLAG**

**ROLL CALL BY CLERK**

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

Mr. Mark Blauer, the town grant writer, stated that this HUD Hearing is to solicit suggestions on public projects. These ideas are then reviewed by the Town Board and a decision is made on what to pursue. He suggested applying for a grant for housing rehabilitation, for low to moderate income qualified families, in the East Kingston Hamlet or for the whole town. This will be a combination of a grant/low interest loan for low to moderate income residents to fix up their homes. Residents can submit ideas for proposals to the Town Supervisor until the next scheduled hearing.

Supervisor Woerner requested the Town Board to consider the East Kingston Hamlet for grant assistance and invited other ideas to be presented. A discussion occurred about the money being a deferred loan with the money being paid back with the sale of the property or a deferred fee schedule that would after a length of time turn into a grant and require no pay back, or the combination of a grant and loan. Mr. Blauer recommended the latter. Money paid back would go into a revolving loan fund for further loans.

Robert Barton inquired about what the cost of the loan would be?  
Supervisor Woerner reported that the only cost is for hiring Mr. Blauer to write a competitive grant application. If the grant is won, the administration fee would be handled by the funds. Any bookkeeping fees, which are minor, would be covered by the town. This cost would probably be recaptured by the interest earned on the grant money.

Town Clerk Cosenza inquired if there is a waiting period for the town to apply again if the town is the beneficiary of this grant.

Mr. Blauer stated that the application can be submitted every year as long as it is warranted.

Supervisor Woerner motioned to close the public hearing at 6:49 PM  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Joel B. Brink  
Four Ayes – Councilman Kitchen was absent.

Supervisor Woerner called the monthly workshop meeting to order at 7:00 PM  
Councilman Kitchen was present.

**Request regarding traffic improvements on Route 28.**

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Supervisor Woerner reported that he had received a petition for Route 28 and asked Mr. Whistance to speak about it.

Mr. Bruce Whistance, reported that Route 28 has been developed over the years, resulting in guard rails being installed as dividers in the road, making it difficult for people to turn around. This results in people driving very far after they realize they need to turn around, often going on private property to turn around or asking for directions at peoples homes and businesses. The State has installed a turn off that allows for a turn around, but after an accident, the u-turn was prohibited. This is a burden on the residents in the area and for the people who use these roads. He requested that the Town Board petition the state to remedy the situation by following through on a plan of installing several safer turns in the area that were proposed 14 years ago. He further suggested more enforcement of the local speed limit.

Councilman Joel B. Brink stated that he is concerned that the correction to the problem will lead to further problems. He has spoken to the Ulster Safety Council about plowing the Route 28 turn-off as that is untouched during inclement weather.

A lady from the audience stated that she has been harassed for parking in her own parking lot because it prevents people from turning around easily.

Supervisor Woerner recommended that the Town Board draft a memorializing resolution petitioning the state to recognize the concerns of the residents and business along the Route 28 area in the Town of Ulster and consider making traffic improvements to include safety, ease of use and accessibility to the Route 28 roadway.

Supervisor Woerner opened the floor for public comment on the proposed memorializing Route 28 resolution. He accepted that all the people who signed the submitted petition are in favor of the resolution.

Maryellen Whistance – She expressed concern about the difficulty in turning onto Route 28 and crossing the medians.

The public comment was concluded.

Supervisor Woerner moved to draft a memorializing resolution, petitioning the NYS DOT, requesting their assistance in attempting to address the current situation along Route 28 in the Town of Ulster, furthermore to consider the suggestions of the residents and businesses in the area, and, hopefully in a timely fashion, make an appropriate determination into what their involvement will be.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Joel B. Brink

All Ayes

Supervisor Woerner will forward a letter on his stationery to the NYS DOT, Assemblyman Cahill, Senator Bonacic, the NYS DOT Commissioner and the Governor with the information provided to him.

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Mr. Robert Barton – Has the bidding process begun for Robert Post Park? He is not in favor of the Town Board giving money to the Kingston Public Access as he thought that money would have been better spent at the park.

Supervisor Woerner reported that the process begins tomorrow. Bids will be open around March 21<sup>st</sup> and there are penalty clauses in the contract for not completing the contract on time. The bid will be awarded by April 4, or sooner if a special meeting is called.

James Maloney, the Town Assessor, reminded the Town Board that they will need to adopt a resolution for the acceptance of the new flood maps. He has no objection to the proposed maps. If the maps are not adopted no one will be able to purchase any flood insurance.

Supervisor Woerner reported a potential flood situation in the town over the weekend.

Supervisor Woerner moved to enter into executive session at 7:33 PM to discuss the status of an employee and to further discuss potential litigation in regard to another situation with the Town Attorney

2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Joel B. Brink

No vote was called

The regular meeting resumed at 8:25 PM.

Supervisor Woerner motioned for the Town Board to authorize him to prepare a letter to be put in the personnel file of Mrs. Lois A. Lapinski, a Court Clerk in the Town of Ulster, stating that effective September 19, 2007, she had completed her six month probationary period, (her hiring date was March 19, 2007), as prescribed by the Town Code of the Town of Ulster

2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Secreto

All Ayes

Supervisor Woerner motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:27 PM

2<sup>nd</sup> by Councilman Kitchen

All Ayes

Respectfully Submitted by  
Jason Cosenza, RMC FHCO  
Ulster Town Clerk