

ULSTER TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP

May 1, 2008 AT 7:00 PM

CALLED TO ORDER BY SUPERVISOR WOERNER, CHAIRMAN

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

Mr. Robert Barton inquired why the town had to pass a resolution for a crosswalk to be installed on a State Road. What is the Greenway grant application for with the comprehensive plan. Supervisor Woerner stated that, whenever a road is looking to be modified within a municipality, the municipality needs to consent to do so. The Greenway grant is to request funds to implement the comprehensive plan and incorporate its goals into the town's law.

Mr. Peter Scott stated, as a representative of the Ulster County Conservative Executive Committee, that they are against the Greenway. Also as a Trustee of the JNW Trust, he stated that they are against the Greenway incentive.

Mrs. Pat Metzger inquired about the City of Kingston controlling the town's side of Washington Avenue with the zoning design guidelines.

Supervisor Woerner stated that the purpose of the Greenway Grant is to get money to help implement the comprehensive plan and that the Town Board has discussed planning guidelines to prohibit items that may not fit the character of the area. The City of Kingston will not have any say over the Town of Ulster section. The Town in joint grant with Kingston will have greater grant funding and any plan or guidelines would need the approval of the Ulster Town Board.

There was a brief discussion about the Quick Chek on Washington Avenue as to why it was not built.

Mr. Richard Metzger inquired why is there a request for a cross walk to be installed on Ulster Avenue.

Supervisor Woerner stated that the purpose was to allow people to cross Ulster Avenue to the stores and restaurants across the street from the Ulster County building.

Ron Leonard – Trout Unlimited – Creek Flooding

Mr. Leonard, a representative from Trout Unlimited, reported that they are interested in improving the whole Esopus Creek and are concerned about the flooding situation. They believe that there is a link between the NY City's management of the water and flooding problem. They asked the Town Board to adopt a supporting resolution for them to work out a means with other interested parties, to use the water resource more effectively. They would like to offer a more

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detailed and complete study of the whole Esopus using a special technology. There will be no financial cost to the town.

Councilman Secreto moved to adopt the following:

**Support Ashokan Pepacton Watershed Chapter Trout Unlimited, Inc.
Proposal for Esopus & Feeder Stream Evaluation I Restoration**

WHEREAS, changing weather patterns along with poor management practices by city, state, and federal government agencies and departments are threatening our waterways and continued added heavy flows from the Shandaken tunnel are leaving many of our waterways in poor condition; and,

WHEREAS, the many feeder streams emptying into the Ashokan Reservoir and after that the Esopus Creek directly impact the residents and property owners along their banks; and,

WHEREAS, the recent flooding again demonstrates that taking action on a piecemeal approach or only when disaster occurs is detrimental to the streams and landholders;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of the Town of Ulster supports the Ashokan Pepacton Watershed Chapter Trout Unlimited, Inc., and the Catskill Delaware Natural Water Alliance, Inc., in their efforts for a comprehensive proposal to find cooperative funding for evaluation and restoration of the habitat and stability of our waterways thus protecting purity of water, aquatic and terrestrial habitat, and personal property.

2nd by Councilman David Brink
All Ayes

Discussion: Regarding personnel appointments at the Town Transfer Station

Supervisor Woerner reported that the town received a resignation from Richard Weishaupt Jr., the Transfer Station Supervisor effective April 18, 2008. Now that he has resigned, this creates an opening. Councilman Joel B. Brink has posted the positions internally. He believes the intermediate transfer Station Supervisor will seek the position.

Issuance of Site Plan Approval for the Albany Avenue Garage on Sawkill Road

Supervisor Woerner reported that all Planning Board approvals have been granted. The only condition to the resolution is that site work shall be complete within one year of Town board approval. The applicant agreed to the one year stipulation.

Councilman Secreto moved for the Town Board to declare lead agency status for the Albany Avenue Garage on Sawkill Road.

2nd Councilman Joel B. Brink
All Ayes

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Councilman Secreto moved to approve a negative declaration for SEQRA for the Albany Avenue Garage on Sawkill Road.

2nd by Councilman David Brink
All Ayes

Councilman David Brink moved to approve a special use permit to expand the existing motor vehicle & repair facility known as the Albany Avenue Garage.

2nd by Councilman Secreto
All Ayes

Councilman Secreto moved to approve the Albany Avenue Garage site plan with the condition that the project be completed within one year of approval.

2nd by Councilman Joel B. Brink
All Ayes

Councilman Secreto moved to approve the following:

Resolution - Requesting the State of New York to install a crosswalk with controlled signalization in the area of the Ulster County Development Court on Ulster Avenue in the Town of Ulster

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Department of Social Services and the Ulster County Business Resource Center employ a large number of individuals at Ulster County's Developmental Court on Ulster Avenue; and

WHEREAS, there are several businesses on the opposite side of Ulster Avenue and food purveyors who serve these employees; and

WHEREAS, there is no controlled intersection crosswalk in the area of these employers; and

WHEREAS, there are a large number of businesses on this side of Ulster Avenue which serve these employees;

WHEREAS, the town has received a "Petition for a Crosswalk" on Ulster Avenue signed by more than 200 individuals; and

NOW THEREFORE; be it resolved that the Town Board of Ulster formally requests that the State of New York, install a crosswalk with controlled signalization in the area of the Development Court on Ulster Avenue in the Town of Ulster and provide a pedestrian improvement study.

2nd by Councilman David Brink
All Ayes

Authorizing the Town Supervisor to submit a Greenway Communities Grant Application for the implementation of zoning changes pursuant to the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

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Councilman David Brink moved to authorize the Town Supervisor to submit a Greenway Communities Grant Application for the implementation of zoning changes pursuant to the Town's Comprehensive Plan.

2nd by Councilman Secreto

Supervisor Woerner informed the Town Board that this grant requires a 50/50 match that can include in kind services.

Town Attorney Andrew Zweben recommended the Town apply for the grant to get the money to implement the comprehensive plan since it's the town intention to do so already.

All Ayes

Authorizing the Town Supervisor to submit a joint Greenway Communities Grant Application with the City of Kingston for the creation and implementation of zoning design guidelines for Washington Ave

Councilman Secreto moved to authorize the Town Supervisor to submit a joint Greenway Communities Grant Application with the City of Kingston for the creation and implementation of zoning design guidelines for Washington Ave

2nd by Councilman David Brink

There was a discussion about the town's involvement with the City of Kingston. The Town would have to adopt any proposal suggested. The design guidelines would establish a more defined look for the area.

4 Ayes – 1 Nay by Councilman Kitchen

Robert Barton inquired about the Time Warner Contract agreement.

Supervisor Woerner reported that he and the attorney were to review the contract. He is not looking at reducing the fee. The money goes towards the general fund. The Town Board can consider holding a public hearing for the contract if they feel it is appropriate. He is not aware of any law requiring a hearing.

A discussion occurred about the County having a county wide assessment. Supervisor Woerner stated that the county is studying the matter. The benefit will be that the cost will switch from the Town to the County level.

Peter Scott, Trustee of the JNW Trust, stated that the reason Quick Chek left Washington Avenue was due to the additional site plan work. He feels that the Quick Chek did not intend to fulfill their obligation of the contract.

Town Clerk Cosenza suggested exchanging some of the Spanish channels for the History Channel or National Geographic in the Time Warner contract.

Richard Metzger reported that the properties near Wal-Mart have a lot of debris around the property and that a lot of traffic lights are out of order.

Supervisor Woerner asked Councilman Secreto to contact the property owners to address the problem. He asked Mr. Metzger to forward the light locations to the Superintendent of Highways.

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Supervisor Woerner reported that the trusses have arrived at Robert E. Post Park and that the large pavilion is ahead of its construction schedule. He reported that the Town has received a grant from Senator Bonacic for energy efficiency improvements in the Town Hall.

Councilman Secreto motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 PM

2nd by Councilman Joel B. Brink

All Ayes

Respectfully Submitted by
Jason Cosenza, RMC FHCO
Ulster Town Clerk