

TOWN OF ULSTER TOWN BOARD WORKSHOP MEETING (11)

JUNE 6, 2024

~Public Hearing 7:10 pm: Local Law # \_\_\_\_\_ of 2024: Pertaining to Chapter 127 - Parks

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**MEETING HELD IN PERSON**

**CALLED TO ORDER BY DEPUTY SUPERVISOR CLAYTON VAN KLEECK, at 7:00 PM**

**SALUTE TO OUR FLAG**

**ROLL CALL by Town Clerk, Suzanne Reavy:**

TOWN COUNCILMAN CLAYTON VAN KLEECK

TOWN COUNCILMAN ROCCO SECRETO

TOWN COUNCILWOMAN MARYANN DEGROODT – *EXCUSED*

TOWN COUNCILWOMAN ANNA HAYNER

SUPERVISOR JAMES E. QUIGLEY 3<sup>rd</sup>

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:**

1. Tosca Sweeney, Comptroller
2. Warren Tutt, Building Inspector
3. Chief Kyle Berardi, Ulster Police
4. Frank Petramale, Highway Superintendent
5. Bill Kemble, Daily Freeman
6. Twelve+ In-Person Attendees

~~ Swearing in of Sergeant Sean Bailey ~~

**ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO AGENDA – None**

**PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS – None**

**COMMUNICATIONS – None**

**New Business:**

**Presentation and Acceptance of the final 2023 Financial Reports for the Town Clerk's Office and the Justice Court (2024-M-168)**

*Supervisor:* Requests to publish on the town website

MOTION: Councilman Secreto

SECOND: Supervisor Quigley

Town Councilwoman DeGroot	-Excused
Town Councilwoman Hayner	-Yes
Town Councilman Secreto	-Yes
Town Councilman Van Kleeck	-Yes
Supervisor Quigley	-Yes

*CARRIED*

**Presentation and Acceptance of the final 2023 Audited Reports for the Town (2024-M-169)**

*Supervisor:* Requests to publish on the town website

MOTION: Councilwoman Hayner

SECOND: Councilman Secreto

Town Councilwoman DeGroot	-Excused
Town Councilwoman Hayner	-Yes
Town Councilman Secreto	-Yes
Town Councilman Van Kleeck	-Yes
Supervisor Quigley	-Yes

*CARRIED*

JUNE 6, 2024

**Presentation and Acceptance of the final 2024 GASB 75 Postretirement Welfare Benefit Actuarial Report (2024-M-170)**

*Supervisor:* Requests to publish on the town website

MOTION: Supervisor Quigley

SECOND: Councilman Secreto

Town Councilwoman DeGroot	<i>-Excused</i>
Town Councilwoman Hayner	-Yes
Town Councilman Secreto	-Yes
Town Councilman Van Kleeck	-Yes
Supervisor Quigley	-Yes

*CARRIED*

**Presentation of Fund Balance Analysis**

For discussion at next meeting

**Motion to authorize the Supervisor/Deputy Supervisor to sign the Master Software Maintenance and Support Agreement with Catalis for the Utility Billing Software (2024-M-171)**

MOTION: Councilman Secreto

SECOND: Councilwoman Hayner

Town Councilwoman DeGroot	<i>-Excused</i>
Town Councilwoman Hayner	-Yes
Town Councilman Secreto	-Yes
Town Councilman Van Kleeck	-Yes
Supervisor Quigley	-Yes

*CARRIED*

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**Motion to authorize the hiring of three Part Time Police Officers (2024-M-172)**

Emily T. Aldrich, Christopher J. Curnan, Raquan M. White  
\$27.32/hour; start date 6/10/24

MOTION: Councilman Secreto

SECOND: Councilwoman Hayner

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Town Councilwoman DeGroot	-Excused
Town Councilwoman Hayner	-Yes
Town Councilman Secreto	-Yes
Town Councilman Van Kleeck	-Yes
Supervisor Quigley	-Yes

*CARRIED*

**Motion to close Katrine Lane Stormwater Checking Account at the Bank of Greene County (2024-M-173)**

MOTION: Supervisor Quigley

SECOND: Councilwoman Hayner

Town Councilwoman DeGroot	-Excused
Town Councilwoman Hayner	-Yes
Town Councilman Secreto	-Yes
Town Councilman Van Kleeck	-Yes
Supervisor Quigley	-Yes

*CARRIED*

**Resolution Authorizing the Town of Ulster Superintendent of Highways to Manage the Staffing and Maintenance of all Town Owned and Operated Parks (2024-R-174)**

**Resolution Authorizing the Town of Ulster Superintendent of Highways to Manage the Staffing and Maintenance of all Town Owned and Operated Parks**

WHEREAS, staff and maintenance of all Town of Ulster Parks has hitherto been under the direct management of the Town of Ulster Supervisor's Office; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Ulster Parks and Recreation Committee, a standing committee of the Town Board of the Town of Ulster, has proposed a plan to transfer management of Town parks to the Town of Ulster Highway Department;

WHEREAS, the Town of Ulster Highway Superintendent has agreed to accept the responsibility to manage the staffing and maintenance of all Town owned and operated parks; and

WHEREAS, all Town of Ulster parks-related income and expenses will continue to fall under the Town of Ulster General Fund; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, all Town of Ulster Parks shall be under the direct management of the Town of Ulster Highway Superintendent, effective June 1, 2024, *nunc pro tunc*; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Town of Ulster Highway Superintendent shall receive a \$5,000.00 stipend to cover his additional responsibilities, payment to be made on an annual basis; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Secretary to the Town of Ulster Highway Superintendent shall receive a \$2,000.00 stipend to cover her additional responsibilities, payment to be made on an annual basis; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Town of Ulster Highway Superintendent's responsibilities for all Town of Ulster Parks shall continue until further resolution of the Town of Ulster Town Board.

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MOTION: Councilman Secreto

SECOND: Councilwoman Hayner

ROLL CALL VOTE:

Town Councilwoman DeGroot	-Excused
Town Councilwoman Hayner	-Yes
Town Councilman Secreto	-Yes
Town Councilman Van Kleeck	-Yes
Supervisor Quigley	-Yes

*CARRIED*

**Old Business:**

**Motion to Adopt the Modified Employee Handbook (2024-M-175)**

*Supervisor:* Asks that this be placed on the town website.

*Deputy Supervisor:* Each employee will receive a printed copy.

MOTION: Councilwoman Hayner

SECOND: Supervisor Quigley

Town Councilwoman DeGroot	-Excused
Town Councilwoman Hayner	-Yes
Town Councilman Secreto	-Yes
Town Councilman Van Kleeck	-Yes
Supervisor Quigley	-Yes

*CARRIED*

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**Public Hearing 7:10 pm: Local Law # \_\_\_\_\_ of 2024: Pertaining to Chapter 127 – Parks**

**Motion to Open the Public Hearing 7:12 pm (2024-M-176)**

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MOTION: Councilwoman Hayner

SECOND: Supervisor Quigley

Town Councilwoman DeGroot	-Excused
Town Councilwoman Hayner	-Yes
Town Councilman Secreto	-Yes
Town Councilman Van Kleeck	-Yes
Supervisor Quigley	-Yes

*CARRIED*

**Public Comment:**

1. Vicki Lucarini, town resident  
Asks for explanation of the law

*Deputy Supervisor:* Dogs will be allowed in our parks – any and all dogs on leashes with a 15’ limit. In reviewing this, we decided all dogs to be on leashes, and not have to question/wonder if dogs are service dogs.

*Councilman Secreto:* This helps our staff.

2. Laura Hartmann, town resident  
As a dog owner, agrees to let the dogs in. Dogs and parks go together. There will be issues with cleanup. Make sure there are enough trash bins and maybe a business in town will assist in installing doggie bags (for cleanup).

**Motion to Close the Public Hearing 7:16 pm (2024-M-177)**

MOTION: Councilwoman Hayner

SECOND: Supervisor Quigley

Town Councilwoman DeGroot	-Excused
Town Councilwoman Hayner	-Yes
Town Councilman Secreto	-Yes
Town Councilman Van Kleeck	-Yes
Supervisor Quigley	-Yes

*CARRIED*

**Discussion on Town Hall Parking Lot Lighting with presentation of lighting plans**

*Deputy Supervisor:* Through our engineer, we connected with a light engineer. We received a recommendation of three options from Hemlock Lighting. We all chose option #3/C, a revamp of the whole parking lot, addressing dark sky lighting and light trespass.

*Councilwoman Hayner:* **Makes a Motion to Choose Quote 1018, Option C and go out to Bid** (2024-M-178)

MOTION: Councilwoman Hayner

SECOND: Councilman Secreto

**Discussion:**

*Supervisor:* Concern is at entrance to town hall. Option C puts three light poles along Town Hall Drive; two poles along Route 209 ramp; new light pole in front of town hall; senior center and police parking lot.

*Deputy Supervisor:* Recommendation from police chief for a green light along the police walkway.

Town Councilwoman DeGroot	-Excused
Town Councilwoman Hayner	-Yes
Town Councilman Secreto	-Yes
Town Councilman Van Kleeck	-Yes
Supervisor Quigley	-Yes

*CARRIED*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

1. Larry Quick, town resident  
There is a pothole on Frank Sottile Blvd. near WalMart.

Deputy Supervisor: May not be a town road. Will have Frank take a look at it and contact the county or state.



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2. Vicki Lucarini, town resident  
Re: parking lot lighting  
Wants to make sure dark sky lighting is bird friendly.

*Councilwoman Hayner:* Lights are compliant with our town.

3. Laura Hartmann, town resident  
Mandy Patinkin (actor) video circulating of his recent visit to our vacant mall. It may be time to take a look at the mall.
4. Eileen Murphy, town resident  
Any updates on Zena National?

*Deputy Supervisor:* We will give a detailed update at the next meeting.

**MOTION to adjourn (7:25 pm) (2024-M-179)**

MOTION: Councilman Secreto

SECOND: Councilwoman Hayner

Town Councilwoman DeGroot	-Excused
Town Councilwoman Hayner	-Yes
Town Councilman Secreto	-Yes
Town Councilman Van Kleeck	-Yes
Supervisor Quigley	-Yes

*CARRIED*

Respectfully Submitted by Suzanne Reavy  
Ulster Town Clerk



Suzanne Reavy <sreavy@townofulster.ny.gov>

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## LOCAL LAW Pertaining to Chapter 127-Parks (Dogs in the Park)

2 messages

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Dawn DeLuca <delucadawn7@gmail.com>  
To: Suzanne Reavy <sreavy@townofulster.ny.gov>

Wed, Jun 12, 2024 at 1:22 PM

6/12/24

Supervisor J. Quigley 3rd  
Councilperson M. DeGrootd  
Councilperson A. Hayner  
Councilperson R. Secreto  
Councilperson C. VanKleeck

Thank you for your time in advance.  
Let me preface this by saying I am not against the dogs in the parks.  
I would however, like to voice some concerns regarding dogs in the Town Parks.

### LEASH

Allowing the leash to be 15 feet from the owner does not adequately give the dog owner control over their dog. If the dog lurches forward the leash can be jerked out of the owner's hand. The dog then could knock over an older person walking in the park, possibly bite a child, or even jump in the river in pursuit of a bird. **Six to Eight feet would provide better control against an issue.** Dogs, at all times, should be under the control of their owners or an individual over the age of 13 accompanied by an adult on park property. Dogs should remain on lead at all times while in the parks.

### DOG HEALTH

All dogs over the age of 4 months must have a Dog License and a VALID rabies tag on their collar when in the parks.  
No dogs in Heat should be brought to the parks.

### WILDLIFE SAFETY

At no time should a dog dig after, chase, or harm the Park wildlife.  
The geese and gulls can be quite pesty but by allowing your dog to chase them could cause a bigger issue. Geese can be very aggressive if they feel threatened.

### PARK USERS

Will dogs be prohibited in certain areas?  
Day camp Counselors (who are hard to come by) should not have to be watching for dogs that enter the day camp area. There are children that are afraid of dogs. Watching the little campers is already a time consuming job - adding dogs should not be in their job description.

There are also numerous challenged individuals and their counselors who use the park. Our seniors and rehabbing folks also use the parks as well. They are already compromised and dogs on long leads and not under control would be a big problem.  
Dogs on 15 foot leads could enter the rented pavilions, barbeque area and picnic tables taking food that has been put out to be served or grabbing it out of a child's hand.

Holes dug on the beach by a dog should be filled in by the dog owner before leaving the park.

Which brings me to:

### LIABILITY

**Who is liable if there is an issue?**

**Who will be monitoring the parks if there is an issue?**

The Town should not be liable for the behavior of the dogs or their owners lack of control.

Last but not least:

**POOP**

Dogs should not be allowed in the area where there are playgrounds

Dogs should not be allowed in the volleyball pit or sports area

The last thing the folks using these areas need to worry about is stepping or falling in poop/urine.

Not to mention having a dog approaching a child or player using the area. Not all people are dog friendly.

Both parks provide more than an adequate amount of disposal containers on premise. There are approx. 16 receptacles at Post Park and approx.7 receptacles at Rider Park. If the individuals bringing their dogs to the

facilities walk their dogs on the street or at rest areas when traveling they should have disposal bags in their car or on a bag container attached to the dog(s) leash. If the other park users must dispose of their waste properly, so should individuals bringing dogs to the park.

The Town of Ulster and their residents(non dog owners) should not have to pay for doggie disposal bags, it must be the responsibility of the dog owner to provide their own bags.

**And**

**Will there be signs coming into the park and facing the water at the boat launch ?**

**Will the signs be in both English and Spanish?**

**Will the Animal Control Officers make random visits to check that park users are compliant?**

**Teamwork makes the Dream work.**

Dawn E. DeLuca  
414 Warren St  
Sunrise Park  
Town of Ulster

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**Suzanne Reavy** <sreavy@townofulster.ny.gov>  
To: Dawn DeLuca <delucadawn7@gmail.com>

Thu, Jun 13, 2024 at 8:34 AM

Correspondence received and made part of the meeting minutes for the public hearing. I will pass this along to the town board.

Suzy Reavy  
[Quoted text hidden]