



# Planning Board ★★★★★★★★★★

Chairwoman Donna Salamone called the meeting to order at 6:05 PM in the Board Room at the Schuyler Town Office, 2090 State Route 5, Utica, NY 13502.

Other Planning Board members present were Vice Chair David Fusillo, James Digristina, Jean Finster, Daniel Tripoli, and Alternate Member Dale Dodge, who was seated. Absent were Victor Costanza and Michael Ritter.

Other Town officials present were Supervisor Anthony J. Lucenti, Administrative Assistant to the Supervisor Jeff Dingman, Codes Officer Philip Green and Bette Szesny who serves as recording secretary.

Also present was Town resident Richard Finster.

## MINUTES

Motion by David Fusillo, seconded by Jean Finster to approve the minutes of the May, 2018 meeting as presented; all in favor. Motion carried.

## DISCUSSION: ZONING MAP UPDATE

Codes Officer Philip Green stated the new owner of Mohawk Valley GIS hasn't started work on the Little Falls project, so he is not able to provide any input on this company; however, he stated the previous owner had completed a good part of the mapping; therefore it could easily be updated rather than starting with a new company. The Planning Board will therefore hold up on retaining the services of any concern, pending receipt of further input from Mr. Green.

## TOWN MASTER PLAN UPDATE

Supervisor Anthony J. Lucenti reported he came across a copy of the Town's Comprehensive Plan that was completed in 2007 by the late Dave Carlson, a grant writer whose services were retained by the Town Board to assist with the Farm Grant. He then conferred with Kristin Campbell, HOCPP (County Planning), who advised this study can most likely serve as the Town's new master plan, with just a few updates. This process will require the SEQR process, with the Planning Board serving as Lead Agency. However, most involved agencies will merely include other Town Departments, streamlining the process to a minimum. The updated master plan will also need to be referred to HOCPP for their recommendation.

Ms. Salamone stated in light of this new information, there will be no need to form subcommittees among the Planning Board members.

## ANIMAL CONTROL LAW

Supervisor Lucenti presented an updated version of the Town's current "Animal Control Law," which has served as the Town's "Leash Law" since 1992. This update was prepared by the Town's attorney. The new version addresses control of additional animal species such as farm animals and the like. A discussion ensued among the Planning Board members, Mr. Green and Supervisor Lucenti, and it was ultimately decided to not combine the leash law with a law that controls wandering farm animals infringing on neighbors' properties. The current leash law will remain intact; a separate law will be underwritten to address control of other animal species, with violations to be handled by the codes officer, and specific fines set for first and repeated violations. Supervisor Lucenti will refer the

proposed law back to the Town's attorney and request the aforementioned changes to be undertaken. The Planning Board will resume discussion and action on this matter at the August meeting.

## GRANT WRITER / GRANT FUNDING

Supervisor Lucenti reported the Town Board has engaged the services of grant writer Jeremy Silverman, GEMS, to assist in obtaining grant funding for required maintenance to the Town's sewer system. As well, the services of G&G Consultants has been engaged to undertake an Income Survey of the residents in the Sewer District, which will be submitted to funding agencies in the hope of obtaining a grant that will offset or possibly eliminate costs of the required maintenance and/or repairs to be borne by the residents of the Town's Sewer District. If the median income level of residents in the Sewer District falls below \$45,000/year, there is a good chance funding will be granted. This survey will be undertaken in July, and will be completed by the end of that month.

Supervisor Lucenti also stated the Community Foundation is another possible source for grant funding for this and other projects undertaken by the Town of Schuyler.

## CANAL BIKE TRAIL

Supervisor Lucenti reported he attended a recent meeting held at the N. Utica Senior Citizens Center, and provided the Planning Board with a report on the Canal Corp's plans for development of the new portion of the trail that will go through Schuyler at Dyke Road, connecting the trail from Utica to Frankfort and on to Ilion.

## PROPOSED SOLAR FARM

Supervisor Lucenti reported an application is anticipated to be submitted in 2019 for a 300 acre solar farm, 150 acres to be sited in the eastern section of Town that will extend another 150 acres into the Town of Herkimer. The project will be overseen by NYSERDA.

## UPCOMING PRESENTATION BY RENEWABLE ENERGY FIRM

Supervisor Lucenti reported the Town Board will receive a presentation by Mike Beckner of Sun-East Development at their June 13th meeting. Mr. Beckner will be proposing a grant opportunity for the Town of Schuyler involving installation of a hybrid auto recharging station for an in-kind contribution of \$4,000, which, as an example, could involve construction of a small patch of pavement for the charging station. A discussion ensued with regard to the need for this commodity in an area where few people would likely be stopping to use the facility. It was noted most long-distance travelers passing through Schuyler do not travel in hybrid vehicles. Mr. Dingman stated he owns a cross-over vehicle (gas and renewable energy dependent), and he, like many others, utilizes the charging station at the Price Chopper Plaza in North Utica, whenever it becomes necessary to recharge his vehicle.

## ADJOURNMENT

There was no further business to come before the Planning Board; therefore, the meeting was adjourned at 6:52 PM on a motion by James Digristina and seconded by Daniel Tripoli.

There will be no July meeting due to the Independence Day holiday.

Next meeting will be held on August 1st.

—Bette Szesny, Recording Secretary