

**DRAFT- TOWN BOARD MEETING**

---

Town of Ulysses

---

May 27, 2025

*The meeting was held in person at the Town Hall at 10 Elm St., Trumansburg NY as well as via Zoom videoconference. Notice of Town Board meetings are posted on the Town's website and Clerk's board.*

*Video recordings of meetings are available on Youtube at*

*<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWVIs--q9CpHlxdk9YxZyPw>.*

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Ms. Olson called the meeting to order at 7pm.

**ATTENDANCE:**

TOWN OFFICIALS:

In person-

Supervisor- Katelin Olson

Board members- Mary Bouchard, Liz Weatherby, Rich Goldman, Michael Boggs

Town Clerk- Carissa Parlato

Via Zoom-

WSPPC (Water Source Protection Plan Committee) member & CSAC (Conservation & Sustainability Advisory Committee) chair- Roxanne Marino

BZA member- Karen Meador

OTHERS:

In person-

Ezra Delaney, Maureen Shallish, S. Pauen

Via Zoom-

Anne Koreman (Tompkins County Legislator)

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

Ms. Olson noted that the agenda was posted last Friday and asked if there were any changes or additions.

Mr. Boggs moved to approve the agenda as presented. This was seconded by Ms. Weatherby and passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING on A LOCAL LAW REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 89 ENTITLED "FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION":**

Ms. Olson noted that this is a model law created by NYSDEC following FEMA's update of the flood map for Tompkins County. Municipalities must adopt the law for residents to be able to qualify for flood insurance.

Mr. Goldman moved to open the hearing at 7:02pm. This was seconded by Mr. Boggs and passed unanimously.

Ms. Olson asked if anyone in public or online wished to address the board on this subject.

Ms. Shallish said that she had reached out to Ms. Olson about the effective dates and had her questions answered.

Ms. Olson made a final request for comments.

Hearing none, Mr. Goldman moved to close the hearing at 7:04pm. This was seconded by Mr. Boggs and passed unanimously.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (3 minutes per person):**

Ms. Marino reminded the board that this Thursday at 6pm is the public workshop on Well and Septic care. The agenda includes an update on WSSPP. Various presenters will share info on well-sampling and testing as well as septic repair.

**PRESENTATION: EZRA DELANEY, TRUMANSBURG CONSERVATORY OF FINE ARTS**

Mr. Delaney thanked all for their support. The project is set up in 2 phases, with quality and longevity in mind. The first phase includes structural repairs, ADA compliant bathroom, lobby renovation, installation of a lift from the floor to stage, siding, ornamental woodwork, roof replacement on the 1901 addition, and painting. The project is scheduled to finish this summer. \$756K has been raised to pay for it.

Phase 1B will include interior improvements such as lath & plaster replacement, insulation, painting, upgrading electrical, and an acoustical ceiling. They have received \$328k from NYS Council on the Arts but will still need another \$100k.

Beyond that they would like to upgrade the parking lot and do other energy-efficiency projects. They have been able to continue programming at alternate locations during the process.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Ms. Olson noted that the law must be passed by June 18.

**SEQR DETERMINATION FOR A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW TO REPEAL AND REPLACE CHAPTER 89 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF ULYSSES ENTITLED “FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION”**

**RESOLUTION # 89 OF 2025: SEQR DETERMINATION FOR A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW TO REPEAL AND REPLACE CHAPTER 89 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF ULYSSES ENTITLED “FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION”**

WHEREAS, the proposed action is in consideration of a proposal to adopt a Local Law that would repeal and replace Chapter 89 of the Code of the Town of Ulysses entitled “Flood Damage Prevention”; and

WHEREAS, the proposed action is an Unlisted action under the New York Codes, Rules, and Regulations (NYCRR) Title 6, Part 617 State Environmental Quality Review (SEQR), for which the Town of Ulysses Town Board is acting as Lead Agency in respect to the proposed local law; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board, at a public meeting held on May 27, 2025, has reviewed and accepted as adequate the Short Environmental Assessment Form (SEAF), Part 1 for the proposed action; and

WHEREAS, the proposal should not create a material conflict with the 2009 land use plan or with the current zoning regulations; and

WHEREAS, the proposal should not result in a significant change in the use or intensity of use of land; and

WHEREAS, the proposal should not impair the character or quality of the existing community; and

WHEREAS, the proposal will not have an impact on the environmental characteristics that caused the establishment of a Critical Environmental Area; and

WHEREAS, the proposal should not result in an adverse change to the existing level of traffic or affect existing infrastructure for mass transit, biking, or walkways; and

WHEREAS, the proposal should not cause a significant increase in the use of energy; and

WHEREAS, the proposal should not significantly impact existing water supplies or wastewater treatment utilities; and

WHEREAS, the proposal should not impair the character or quality of important historic, archaeological, architectural or aesthetic resources; and

WHEREAS, the proposal should not result in an adverse change to natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the proposal should not result in a significant increase in the potential for erosion, flooding or drainage problems; and

WHEREAS, the proposal should not create a hazard to environmental resources or human health.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses hereby makes a negative determination of environmental significance in accordance with the Consolidated Laws of New York Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law and NYCRR SEQR for the above referenced action as proposed, based on the information in the SEAF Part 1 and for the reasons set forth above and in SEAF Parts 2 and 3, and therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement will not be required.

Moved: Ms. Bouchard

Seconded: Ms. Weatherby

*ROLL-CALL VOTE:*

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Bouchard	aye
Goldman	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 5/27/25

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**ADOPTING A PROPOSED LOCAL LAW REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 89 ENTITLED 'FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION'**

**RESOLUTION # 90 OF 2025: ADOPTING LOCAL LAW 2 OF 2025- REPEALING AND REPLACING CHAPTER 89 ENTITLED "FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION"**

WHEREAS, the Town Board finds the following:

1. The Town of Ulysses has several areas within the Town that are subject to periodic flooding or have the potential to experience damages from flood waters during storm events.
2. The potential and/or actual damages from flooding and erosion may be a problem to the residents of the Town of Ulysses and that such damages may include: destruction or loss of private and public housing, damage to public facilities, both publicly and privately owned, and injury to and loss of human life.
3. The Town of Ulysses participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) so properties in Ulysses remain eligible for flood insurance.
4. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) periodically updates the Flood Insurance Study for Tompkins County, to provide more accurate information concerning flood risks and impact, including properties located in Ulysses.
5. FEMA has established a deadline of June 18, 2025, for local jurisdictions to adopt revised flood damage prevention regulations to minimize the potential for damages from flood events.
6. FEMA has adopted new Flood Insurance Rate Maps that change the areas in Ulysses that are expected to be vulnerable to damages from flood events.
7. A new set of Flood Damage Prevention regulations have been proposed by FEMA for local jurisdictions to use to implement that will regulate uses which are dangerous to health, safety and property due to water or erosion hazards, or which result in damaging increases in erosion or in flood heights or velocities; require that uses vulnerable to floods, including facilities which serve such uses, be protected against flood damage at the time of initial construction; control the alteration of natural floodplains, stream channels, and natural protective barriers which are involved in the accommodation of flood waters; control filling, grading, dredging and other development which may increase erosion or flood damages; regulate the construction of flood barriers which will unnaturally divert flood waters or which may increase flood hazards to other lands; and qualify and maintain for participation in the National Flood Insurance Program.
8. The objectives of the new set of Flood Damage Prevention regulations are to protect human life and health; to minimize expenditure of public money for costly flood control projects; to minimize the need for rescue and relief efforts associated with flooding and generally undertaken at the expense of the general public; to minimize prolonged business interruptions; to minimize damage to public facilities and utilities such as water and gas mains, electric, tele-phone, sewer lines, streets and bridges located in areas of special flood hazard; to help maintain a stable tax base by providing for the sound use and development of areas of special flood hazard so as to minimize

future flood blight areas; to provide that developers are notified that property is in an area of special flood hazard; and to ensure that those who occupy the areas of special flood hazard assume responsibility for their actions.

9. The Town's current flood hazard local law became effective on March 11, 1987.
10. To minimize the threat of damages, and to achieve the purposes and objectives noted above, the amended local law for Flood Damage Prevention as drafted is warranted.
11. The Town Board finds that it is in the public interest to adopt this local law, and that such local law is necessary to promote the public health, safety, and general welfare, and to minimize public and private losses due to flood conditions in specific areas.

NOW, THEREFORE, THE TOWN OF ULYSSES RESOLVES THE FOLLOWING:

Section 1. FINDINGS OF FACT.

The Recitals set forth above are adopted as the Findings of Fact in support of adoption of this local law.

Section 2. REPEALER AND REPLACEMENT.

Local Law No. 2 of 2025 entitled "A Local Law Repealing and Replacing Chapter 89 of the Town Code entitled "Flood Damage Prevention" is hereby adopted.

Section 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This resolution will take effect upon the filing of Local Law No. 2 of 2025 with the Department of State.

Moved: Ms. Olson      Seconded: Mr. Boggs

*ROLL-CALL VOTE:*

Olson	aye
Boggs	
Bouchard	aye
Goldman	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 5-0

Date Adopted: 5/27/25

**UPDATE ON FLOOD INFORMATION AVAILABLE THROUGH TOMPKINS COUNTY TO ACCOMPANY NEW FEMA MAPS**

Ms. Olson drew attention to Tompkins County's flood zone website as there are now a number of properties in the county (although only a few in Ulysses) that are now in a flood zone.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**HOUSE NUMBERING**

Ms. Olson said that Tompkins County is considering taking over house numbering/addressing for all the municipalities in the county to help streamline the process.

**APPOINTMENT TO TREE COMMITTEE:**

**RESOLUTION # 91 OF 2025: APPOINTMENT TO TREE COMMITTEE**

RESOLVED, that the Ulysses Town Board appoints Suzanne Hillman to the Tree Committee with a term ending Dec. 31, 2025.

Moved: Ms. Olson                      Seconded: Ms. Bouchard

Olson                      aye  
Boggs                      aye  
Bouchard                      aye  
Goldman                      aye  
Weatherby                      aye

Vote: 5-0  
Date Adopted: 5/27/25

Ms. Olson made a friendly amendment to say that the term will be through Dec. 31, 2025. Ms. Bouchard seconded this and all voted in favor.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- June 10 – Regular Town Board Meeting, 7pm @ Town Hall- will start discussing SEQR and Draft donation agreement for land. Niels will join + Planning Board/ DD3
- June 18 – Staff Annual Training @ Town Hall
- June 18 – Board and Committee Annual Training, 5-7pm
- June 19 – Town Buildings Closed for Juneteenth
- June 24 – Regular Town Board Meeting, 7pm @ Town Hall

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**RESOLUTION # 92 OF 2025: APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that the Ulysses Town Board approve the meeting minutes, as presented/amended, from April 22, 2025 (regular meeting) and May 13, 2025 (regular meeting).

Moved: Ms. Bouchard                      Seconded: Ms. Weatherby

Olson                      aye  
Boggs                      aye  
Bouchard                      aye  
Goldman                      aye  
Weatherby                      aye

Vote: 5-0  
Date Adopted: 5/27/25

**PARKING LOT UPDATE:**

Ms. Olson said that the Highway/DPW has removed the town-owned pavement from the neighboring property and will tamp it tomorrow. Additional fill was needed since the asphalt was thicker than originally thought.

Ms. Weatherby said that the CPSC will meet next week on Wed. 6/4 to review some draft chapters. They hope to be done reviewing in September and then share it with the public.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (3 min limit per person):**

Ms. Shallish referred to a Facebook posting regarding the parking lot and noted that the information shared was not accurate. She wondered if the town would consider an FAQ. She complimented the board on the accessibility of the new lot.

Ms. Olson responded that she is hoping to do an open house for the public and noted some of the complexities of public (taxpayer-funded) projects including goals longevity/quality, prevailing wage, and engineering.

**ADJOURN:**

Mr. Goldman made a motion to adjourn at 7:52pm. This was seconded by Ms. Bouchard and passed unanimously.

*Respectfully submitted by Carissa Parlato, Town Clerk, 6/3/25*

**APPENDIX:**

**SEQR for LL2 of 2025**

**Local Law 2 of 2025**