

DRAFT- TOWN BOARD MEETING

Town of Ulysses

Oct. 14, 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- Michael Boggs, Liz Weatherby, Mary Bouchard, Rich Goldman

Town Clerk- Carissa Parlato

Bookkeeper- Blixxy Taetzsch

OTHERS:

In person-

Nancy Cusumano, Mena Schlossberg

Via Zoom-

Anne Koreman, JT Stone, Nancy

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Mr. Boggs made a motion to approve the agenda. This was seconded by Ms. Bouchard and passed unanimously.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:

Ms. Cusumano spoke on the topic of the possible data center in Lansing. (See Appendix)

Ms. Olson responded that she had spoken with Lansing Town Supervisor and signed a petition personally on the topic.

MUNICIPAL BOARD & STAFF REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS (written reports provided)

Ms. Koreman shared the following updates:

- 2026 Budget (not final yet):
 - The median homeowner will see an increase of \$20.08
 - Hearing on 28th
 - Added in \$500k for TCAT; hoping other municipalities will do same
 - Added 2 corrections officers due to state mandate
 - Added a 911 dispatch
- Code Blue season open
- Support Lansing moratorium

Ms. Weatherby shared the following updates:

- Comp Plan Steering Committee:
 - 7 people came to open house
 - Encourages more comments
 - Goal of passing the draft document off to the Town Board on 11/5
 - Tight timeframe- will see in next few weeks if feasible
- Youth Commission
 - Youth & rec programs going well

Ms. Olson shared the following:

- Three Falls:
 - 500 responses to survey
 - Great turnout on 9/27 for open house
 - Master plan should be finalized by end of year

Mr. Goldman shared that the health consortium approved an 18% increase on insurance for 2026.

OLD BUSINESS:

TENTATIVE BUDGET FOR 2026

RESOLUTION #132 OF 2025: ADOPTION OF 2026 PRELIMINARY BUDGET, AND SETTING OF PUBLIC HEARING

WHEREAS, the Town Budget Officer presented the 2026 Tentative Budget to the Town Clerk and the Town Board at the September 23rd Regular Town Board meeting, and

WHEREAS, prior to the presentation of the Tentative Budget, there were three public sessions to conduct line-by-line budget review on 9/8, 9/10, 9/17; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board discussed and considered the 2026 Tentative Budget on 9/23/25 in a regular meeting and 10/9 in a regular meeting and made no further changes to the tentative budget;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED that the Town Board accepts the Preliminary Budget for 2026 as presented at the 10/14/2025 regular meeting for the Ulysses Town Board, with a 3.13% increase in the tax levy and a 1.55% tax rate increase for Town residents outside the Village of Trumansburg, and a 0.9% levy increase and a 3.08% tax rate decrease for Village of Trumansburg residents, and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Board hold a public hearing at 10 Elm Street, Trumansburg, NY, on Tuesday, October 28, 2025 at 7p.m. for the purpose of hearing public comments on the Town of Ulysses 2026 Preliminary Budget.

Moved: Ms. Olson

Seconded: Ms. Bouchard

Olson aye

Boggs aye

Bouchard aye
Goldman aye
Weatherby aye

Vote: 5-0

Date adopted: 10/14/25

BRIDGE NY MAPLEWOOD CULVERT - CONTRACT FOR ENGINEERING

Ms. Olson said that the contract had been delayed with the DOT. She would like to select B&L rather than going through bid process so that the project can get back going. The attorney approved this process. The group discussed.

RESOLUTION #133 of 2025: AUTHORIZING TOWN SUPERVISOR TO EXECUTE ARCHITECTURAL/ENGINEERING CONSULTANT AGREEMENT WITH BARTON & LOGUIDICE, DPC FOR THE REHABILITATION OF MAPLEWOOD ROAD CULVERT

WHEREAS, in connection with a federal-aid project funded through the New York State Department of Transportation ("NYSDOT") known as Rehabilitation of Maplewood Road Culvert over a Tributary of Cayuga Lake (the "Project"), the Town of Ulysses requires the services of a consultant to design and otherwise provide the services as described in Attachment B annexed to the Architectural/Engineering Consultant Agreement attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, Barton & Loguidice, DPC has previously worked with the Town regarding a similar project, and as such is familiar with the federal and state requirements pertaining to the Project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses hereby authorizes the Town Supervisor, Katelin Olson, to execute that certain Architectural/Engineering Consultant Agreement with Barton & Loguidice, DPC for services relating to the Project and be it further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved: Mr. Goldman Seconded: Ms. Bouchard

Olson aye
Boggs aye
Bouchard aye
Goldman aye
Weatherby aye

Vote: 5-0

Date adopted: 10/14/25

SMITH WOODS DONATION

Ms. Weatherby and Mr. Goldman shared the donation agreement that Mr. VanWhy drafted. PRI has already voted to accept the agreement.

Ms. Olson noted that due to the deed restrictions that the property be left in its natural state, maintenance is simple. Insurance will increase by about \$1000/yr according to estimates.

The group reviewed the Short Environmental Assessment Form (SEAF) for the parcel.

RESOLUTION #134 of 2025: SCHEDULING A PUBLIC HEARING AND CLASSIFYING DONATION OF SMITH WOODS AS AN ACTION AS UNLISTED

WHEREAS, on June 10, 2025 the Paleontological Research Institute (“PRI”) presented to the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses regarding potential donation of the property owned by them and known as “Smith Woods” to the Town of Ulysses; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board at that meeting authorized Town Board members Elizabeth Weatherby and Rich Goldman (together, the “Ad Hoc Committee”) to represent the Town in negotiations with PRI regarding such potential donation; and

WHEREAS, PRI and the Ad Hoc Committee have prepared and presented a Donation Agreement for Smith Woods to the Town of Ulysses in the form attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board desires to hold a public hearing with respect to accepting the donation of Smith Woods as outlined in the Donation Agreement; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board also desires to preliminarily classify said donation for purposes of environmental review;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that a public hearing shall be held by the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses on October 28, 2025 at 7:00 p.m., or as soon thereafter as may be heard, with respect to the acceptance of Smith Woods as provided for in the Donation Agreement; and it is further

RESOLVED, that (1) the action, for purposes of State Environmental Quality Review, is an unlisted action, (2) the Town Board has identified no other potential involved agencies, and (3) the Town Board may proceed with an uncoordinated review of this action; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the Town Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause public notice of said hearing to be given as provided by law; and it is further

RESOLVED, that this resolution shall take effect immediately.

Moved: Ms. Olson Seconded: Mr. Goldman

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Bouchard	aye
Goldman	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 5-0

Date adopted: 10/14/25

APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

RESOLUTION # 135 OF 2025: APPOINTMENT TO THE BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS

RESOLVED, that the Ulysses Town Board appoints the following person to the Board of Zoning Appeals for a term ending December 31, 2026: Jonathan Ferrari

Moved: Ms. Olson Seconded: Mr. Goldman

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Bouchard	aye
Goldman	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 5-0

Date adopted: 10/14/25

NEW BUSINESS:

WATERBURG ROAD SPEED REDUCTION

Ms. Olson invited Mr. Sutcliffe (petition submitter) to share some background on the request. He said that all signers were enthusiastic about the petition due to traffic and safety concerns.

RESOLUTION #136 OF 2025: REQUESTING A TRAFFIC STUDY TO REDUCE THE SPEED LIMIT ON WATERBURG ROAD

WHEREAS, Waterburg Road is a Tompkins County road within the Town of Ulysses and

WHEREAS, residents have requested a speed study, and

WHEREAS, the Ulysses Highway Superintendent has reviewed the road conditions and supports a speed study and a speed reduction, contingent on enforcement, and

WHEREAS, §1622 of the New York State Vehicle and Traffic Law establishes the law regarding speed limits on town highways, and

WHEREAS, this law states that the Department of Transportation, upon the request of the county superintendent of highways of a county, and the town board of the town affected with respect to town highways in such town outside of cities or villages, may, by order, rule or regulation: (1) Establish maximum speed limits at which vehicles may proceed on or along such highways higher or lower than the fifty-five miles per hour statutory maximum speed limit. No such limit shall be established at less than twenty-five miles per hour, except that school speed limits may be established at not

less than fifteen miles per hour, (2) Establish maximum speed limits at which vehicles may proceed on or along all such highways lying within an area as designated by a description of the boundaries of such area submitted by the county superintendent of highways of a county and the town board of the town affected lower than fifty-five miles per hour statutory maximum speed limit. No such limit shall be established at less than thirty miles per hour,

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED that the Town Board of the Town of Ulysses supports the request for a speed control investigation by NYSDOT to determine if the speed limit for Waterburg Road from

Podunk Road to Indian Fort Road for the safety of residents, drivers, bicyclists and pedestrians, and further

RESOLVED that the Town Board directs the Town Clerk to submit a certified copy of this resolution to the Tompkins County Highway Superintendent requesting that they accept and submit our request to the NYSDOT.

Moved: Ms. Olson Seconded: Mr. Goldman

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Bouchard	aye
Goldman	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 5-0

Date adopted: 10/14/25

RELEVY DELINQUENT WATER BILLS

RESOLUTION #137 OF 2025: RELEVY OF DELINQUENT WATER CHARGES FOR DISTRICTS 3

WHEREAS, Town Code Chapter 200-10(C)(2) provides for delinquent water bills, taxes, assessments, fees, rents, or other service charges of Water District 3 to be placed on the ensuing year's tax roll as a relevy; and

WHEREAS, Town Code Chapter 200-10(C)(2) defines delinquent as "a period of at least 60 calendar days as of October 1 of any year"; and

WHEREAS, customers were notified that they could make payments on delinquent amounts through Sept. 30, 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Ulysses Town Board approves the re-levy of unpaid delinquent water charges in the amount of \$6522.14 to the 2026 Town and County Tax Roll; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution along with a listing of the properties with relevied water charges will be sent to the Tompkins County Assessment Department for the purpose of adding these delinquent charges to the 2026 Town and County Tax Roll.

Moved: Ms. Olson Seconded: Mr. Goldman

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Bouchard	aye
Goldman	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 5-0

Date adopted: 10/14/25

TOWN CLEANER – JOB TITLE CREATION

RESOLUTION #138 OF 2025: CREATION OF CLEANER POSITION FOR THE TOWN

WHEREAS, the Town of Ulysses currently utilizes an outside contractor to perform cleaning services at the Town Hall, and

WHEREAS, obtaining competitive vendor quotes from time to time is a best practice; and

WHEREAS, it has been difficult to obtain multiple acceptable vendor quotes for cleaning services due to prevailing wage requirements for contractors; and

WHEREAS, after internal conversations, it has been determined that it will be better to employ someone rather than seek competitive quotes for the cleaning contract at this time; and

WHEREAS, the Town Board must establish a position and pay rate to hire a Cleaner; and

WERREAS, it has been determined that the estimated total cost of such a position will not exceed the funds available for contracted cleaning services;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Ulysses Town Board approves the position of Cleaner as listed in Tompkins County Personnel job descriptions; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the pay rate will be approved at \$22 per hour in the 2025 budget; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED that the pay rate would increase by 3% in the 2026 budget.

Moved: Ms. Olson Seconded: Ms. Weatherby

Olson	aye
Boggs	aye
Bouchard	aye
Goldman	aye
Weatherby	aye

Vote: 5-0

Date adopted: 10/14/25

EXECUTIVE SESSION: For purposes related to current litigation

(not needed)

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 28 – Regular meeting @ 7pm @ Town Hall

November 12 – Regular meeting @ 7pm @ Town Hall

November 25 - Regular meeting @ 7pm @ Town Hall

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

RESOLUTION #139 of 2025: APPROVAL OF MINUTES

RESOLVED, that the Ulysses Town Board approves the following meeting minutes, as presented: 9/10 Special Meeting, 9/11 Special Meeting, 9/17 Special Meeting, and 9/23 Regular Meeting.

Moved: Ms. Olson

Seconded: Ms. Bouchard

Olson aye

Boggs aye

Bouchard aye

Goldman aye

Weatherby aye

Vote: 5-0

Date adopted: 10/14/25

BOARD NOTIFICATIONS:

(none)

BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

RESOLUTION #140 of 2025: APPROVAL OF BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

RESOLVED, that the Ulysses Town Board approves the following budget modifications, as presented/amended (SEE APPENDIX).

Moved: Mr. Goldman

Seconded: Ms. Bouchard

Olson aye

Boggs aye

Bouchard aye

Goldman aye

Weatherby aye

Vote: 5-0

Date adopted: 10/14/25

PAYMENT OF AUDITED CLAIMS

RESOLUTION #141 of 2025: PAYMENT OF AUDITED CLAIMS

RESOLVED that the Ulysses Town Board approves payment of claims #473-517 in the amount of \$180,237.39.

Moved: Ms. Weatherby

Seconded: Mr. Goldman

Olson aye

Boggs aye

Bouchard aye

Goldman aye

Weatherby aye

Vote: 5-0

Date adopted: 10/14/25

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR (3-min limit per person)

JT Stone Tompkins Weekly

ADJOURN:

Mr. Goldman made a motion to adjourn at 8:25pm. This was seconded by Ms. Bouchard and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Carissa Parlato, Town Clerk, 10/20/25

APPENDIX:



Town of Lansing moratorium petition

From Nancy Cusumano <nancycusumano62@gmail.com>

Date Fri 10/10/2025 2:55 PM

To Carissa Parlato <clerk@townofulyssesny.gov>

Cc Katelin Olson <supervisor@townofulyssesny.gov>; Michael Boggs <boggs@townofulyssesny.gov>; Mary Bouchard <bouchard@townofulyssesny.gov>; Rich Goldman <goldman@townofulyssesny.gov>; Elizabeth Weatherby <weatherby@townofulyssesny.gov>

Hello Town of Ulysses supervisor and board members,

As you may be aware, the Town of Lansing will be voting this Wednesday, 10/15 on a moratorium on any new large scale development in the Town of Lansing until the town has a chance to update its zoning laws. The town was recently awarded a grant for this purpose and is working towards the zoning update. The moratorium would delay any large scale proposals until that task is complete. Here is the [link to the moratorium language](#), with the update that the square footage limit would be 3,000 sqft., not 5,500 sqft.

As you may also know, the elephant in the room is the AI data center proposed for the shuttered power plant directly across the lake from all of us.

There is also a [petition](#) being circulated by Seneca Lake Guardian in support of the moratorium.

I would ask that all of you if you have time before the Town of Lansing board meeting on Wednesday, please write letters of support to the Lansing Supervisor and Board members for this moratorium. The data center has the potential to affect the entire county with higher electric costs. The sound of this center would also likely be heard on this side of the lake. Just two things to consider.

I will be reading this letter at the Tuesday meeting in privilege of the floor.

Thank you and have a good holiday weekend.

Nancy Cusumano

2025 Budget Modifications Requested at Town Board Meeting 4/8/2025

A FUND BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

1	Account #	Account Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Budget Mod Request	Post Budget Mod.
	A4089	Federal Aid - Other (ARPA)	\$ -	Increase	\$ 230,000.00	\$ 230,000.00
	A1620.21	Town Hall Facilities - Parking Lot	\$ -	Increase	\$ 230,000.00	\$ 230,000.00
To reflect ARPA funding and related spending for the Parking Lot Project.						

2	Account #	Account Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Budget Mod Request	Post Budget Mod.
	A5132.2	Highway Barn - Equipment	\$ 4,000.00	Increase	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 14,000.00
	A599	Appropriated FB - Assigned Funds	\$ 142,018.00	Increase	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 152,018.00
To reflect use of Assigned Funds from NYSERDA grant to pay for highway barn heating system.						

3	Account #	Account Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Budget Mod Request	Post Budget Mod.
	A7989.4	Culture and Recreation - Contractual	\$ 12,150.00	Increase	\$ 500.00	\$ 12,650.00
	A1990.4	Contingency	\$ 30,000.00	Decrease	\$ 500.00	\$ 29,500.00
	To cover \$500 in excess spending due to error in preparation of annual payout list for vouchers.					

4	Account #	Account Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Budget Mod Request	Post Budget Mod.
	A9040.8	Worker's Compensation	\$ 1,402.00	Increase	\$ 240.00	\$ 1,642.00
	A9055.8	Disability and PFL	\$ 1,400.00	Decrease	\$ 240.00	\$ 1,160.00
	To use savings in Disability and PFL line to cover overage in Worker's Compensation line.					

B FUND BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

1	Account #	Account Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Budget Mod Request	Post Budget Mod.
	B9040.8	Worker's Compensation	\$ 2,995.00	Increase	\$ 200.00	\$ 3,195.00
	B9055.8	Disability and PFL Insurance	\$ 800.00	Increase	\$ 190.00	\$ 990.00
	B1990.41	Employee Benefit Contingency	\$ 10,700.00	Decrease	\$ 390.00	\$ 10,310.00
	To reflect increased costs of employee benefits. Adequate contingency is available to cover these costs.					

DA FUND BUDGET MODIFICATIONS

1	Account #	Account Name	Current Budget	Increase / Decrease	Budget Mod Request	Post Budget Mod.
	DA9055.8	Disability and PFL Insurance	\$ 700.00	Increase	\$ 50.00	\$ 750.00
	DA9040.8	Worker's Compensation	\$ 3,711.00	Decrease	\$ 70.00	\$ 3,641.00
	To cover small overage in Disability and PFL with savings in Worker's Compensation insurance.					