



Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee
Zoom Hybrid Meeting
DRAFT Meeting Minutes
October 2, 2024
Approved: _____

Committee Members Present: Chair Ann DiPetta, Diane Cohen, Karl Klankowski, Mo Klein, Roxanne Marino, Alison Weaver

Committee Members Present on Zoom: Katelin Olson

Committee Members Absent: Tai Basilius, Rose Hanson, Rebecca Schneider, Elizabeth Weatherby

Quorum Present

Comp Plan Consultant Present: Matt Horn, Angelina White

Town Staff Present: Mollie Duell, Niels Tygesen

Members of the Public Present on Zoom: Kim Moore

Proceedings

Chair Ann DiPetta called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm at the Town Hall.

Approval of Agenda

Motion: Klein motioned to approve the agenda; Klankowski seconded.

Vote: Cohen, aye; Klankowski, aye; Klein, aye; Marino, aye; Olson, aye; Weaver, aye; and Chair DiPetta, aye.

Motion Carried.

Approval of Past Minutes

Marino suggested that two clarifying details be added to the September 4 minutes.

Motion: Klein motioned to approve the September 4 meeting minutes as amended; Klankowski seconded.

Vote: Cohen, aye; Klankowski, aye; Klein, aye; Marino, aye; Olson, aye; Weaver, aye; and Chair DiPetta, abstain.

Motion Carried.

Privilege of the Floor

No members of the public addressed the committee.

Old Business Items

PIP, Press Release, 2009 Comp Plan Audit, and Social Media Updates

Olson stated that the Town Board approved social media policy as presented.

Discussion ensued over the timeline of the website launch and press release.

Horn presented the 2009 Comp Plan audit worksheet and provided instructions for committee members to provide feedback.

Horn stated that he would be meeting with website designers next week.

The committee discussed finalizing the branding of the comp plan and agreed to vote on it tomorrow.

Comp Plan Environmental Review, 2025 Town Budget

The committee discussed the potential impact of including an Environmental Impact Statement into the comp plan. Committee members weighed possible scenarios that could occur over the following decade.

Tygesen explained that the State recommends GEIS' as the most appropriate way to analyze environmental impacts of a comp plan, and that per DEC, subsequent projects in conformance with the conditions and thresholds established in the GEIS no further SEQR compliance would be required, and adding the additional \$37,000 to the comp plan now would save the Town money long term.

Horn provided some examples of hypothetical projects that would require an EIS.

Olson spoke about needed bridge and culvert repairs in Ulysses.

Marino suggested that the EIS seems unnecessary and unusual for a comp plan.

Weaver asked if the Town's attorney is advising to include the EIS now; Tygesen responded yes.

Motion: Klein motioned to accept [Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Resolution No. 2024-01: A Resolution Recommending the Town Board Amend the Comprehensive Plan Budget to Accommodate an Environmental Impact Statement](#); Klankowski seconded.

Vote: Cohen, abstain; Klankowski, aye; Klein, aye; Marino, nay; Olson, aye; Weaver, aye; and Chair DiPetta, aye.

Motion Carried.

New Business Items

New business items were reviewed briefly due to time constraints.

Economic Base Report – Demographic and Market Data

Horn asked committee members to review the report and provide feedback.

Marino raised the point that although Tompkins County is technically considered part of the Southern Tier Region, Ulysses' identity strongly aligns with the Finger Lakes Region.

Planning Foundations Memo

Horn requested that the committee provide comments and feedback over the next two weeks.

Other: Public/Stakeholders

Outreach for Focus Group #1: Economic Development, Historic Presentation/Built Environment, and Housing; and Focus Group #2: Environment/Natural Resources and Climate Change/Resilience

The location of the group meetings will be determined pending expected attendance. By the next meeting, the first focus group conversations will have been held.

Local Leadership Interviews

Horn stated the interviews, along with the focus group outreach, are the two time-sensitive items intended to be completed in October. Committee members were asked to consider additional candidates for interviews.

Motion: Klein motioned to adjourn; Klankowski seconded.

Vote: Cohen, aye; Klankowski, aye; Klein, aye; Marino, aye; Olson, aye; Weaver, aye; and Chair DiPetta, aye.

Motion Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:01 PM.

Mollie Duell

Comprehensive Plan Steering Committee Secretary