

ULSTER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

Minutes – October 6, 2010

The Ulster County Planning Board Meeting
7:30 p.m. – Surrogate Courtroom, 3rd Floor
County Office Building

The Executive Committee met at 6:45 PM

(Mr. Wilkin, Ms. Elwell, Mr. Watkins, Ms. Hokanson, Ms. Pecora & Mr. Budziak)
The Committee discussed Capital Projects and staff issues.

Mr. Wilkin called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm and asked Mr. Leibowitz to read the roll call.

1. ROLL CALL Present: R. Pecora, K. Brueckner, T. Marion, L. Biggin, T. Hokanson, H. Grant, T. Wilkin, M. Baden, F. Greitzer, J. Kane, K. Holmquist, M. Watkins, R. Budziak, J. Constable, A. Yuran, R. Elwell, R. Kinnin, S. Finkle, D. Doyle, R. Leibowitz **Absent:** J. Konior, T. Natale, S. Frederick **Excused:** J. Katz, P. Hakim, A. Zlatkin
Guests: Larry Arnold-PAAR Realty

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

The September minutes were approved. Motion by Ms. Pecora, seconded by Ms. Elwell. Mr. Constable, Mr. Kane and Ms. Biggin abstained.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Doyle stated that we just got notice that the \$54,000 reimbursement for Main Streets has come in and that we are still waiting for reimbursement for transportation funding. Mr. Doyle stated that we don't have any issues regarding our current budget and added that the County Executive's office released the 2011 budget on Monday. Our 2011 budget was approved as proposed; it is less than last year, but contains all the programs that we need. We are able to maintain all of our staff and maintain all of our professional services and contractual needs. We are now substantially funded through grants, which gives us a 60% return on investment from outside dollars.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

5. COMMUNITY REPORT

Ms. Hokanson stated that Town of New Paltz has an Article 78 filed against their Flood Plain Law. Mr. Wilkin asked Mr. Doyle about the Hudson River Estuary Program. Mr. Doyle stated that estuary program is state funded and may try to shed that program. There was also a discussion about issues with DEC permitting.

6. COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Wilkin asked if there was more information available for the GIS workshop. Mr. Doyle stated he did not but there was contact information listed. Mr. Doyle stated that applications for trail funding are due November 5th. He added that funding is available for public/private funding to expand grocery stores in underserved neighborhoods.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. Capital Projects – Mr. Doyle stated the Board has a responsibility under the charter to report individual projects as to priority and to note whether any projects are missing. Last year's recommendations to the County Executive and the Legislature were well received. State of good repair funds, with respect to major systems in buildings, was specifically requested to be added by the County Executive. New to the program this year will be the County Infirmary. The Legislature is conducting a study on the future of the facility at this time. The Open Space Program will continue to be on the Capital Projects Program at our Board's request; to be able to purchase development rights and other requests from open space entities. The Board also commented on the amount of money being spent, by the community college, which was the largest commitment of funding in the County without oversight. Mr. Doyle stated he is now on an oversight committee for the college's capital projects.

Mr. Doyle stated that the County's Capital Program now runs consistent with the capital programs adopted by the Transportation Council. Mr. Doyle requested the board get comments back to him one week before the November meeting in order for staff to assemble the report back to the County Executive and the Legislature. Board members asked Mr. Doyle questions regarding various buildings on the list. Mr. Wilkin asked Mr. Doyle for the definition of "complete streets." Mr. Doyle explained that it means accommodating all forms of transportation. He gave South Putt Corners Road (in New Paltz) as an example by stating that improving the shoulders of a road improves the safety for pedestrians and cyclists. Mr. Doyle asked the board to submit comments to him, via e-mail (if possible) by October 27th.

- b. County Executive 2011 Budget Released – see Financial Report.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Environmental Notice Bulletin – No Member Comment
- b. Mr. Doyle informed the board that NYS is in the process of re-writing their housing funding. DHCR and the Home Program have consolidated and are working on the NYS Consolidated Plan. A question has come up by an advocate agency for a support letter for farm workers. Mr. Doyle stated that Ulster County has been involved in housing for farm workers in the past. Adding farm worker housing to the NYS Plan would give farm workers a special status and give us a better chance of getting funds. **Ms. Hokanson made a motion in favor of the support letter, which was seconded by Ms. Elwell. All were in favor.**
- c. Mr. Doyle discussed the Public Meetings and showed the Board a Powerpoint presentation on the I-587 study.
- d. Zoning Referrals – See Separate Zoning Minutes

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 pm.