

**Town Board Workshop Meeting
December 2, 2021**

A regularly scheduled Town Board workshop meeting was held at the Esopus Town Hall, 1 Town Hall Way, Ulster Park, NY. The meeting was also available via zoom, live streamed on Facebook and televised on local access channel 23 on Thursday December 2, 2021, at 7:00 PM with the following persons in attendance:

**Supervisor Jared Geuss – Absent
Councilman Kathie Quick
Councilman Chris Farrell
Councilman Evelyn Clarke
Councilman Laura Robinson**

Deputy Supervisor Shannon Harris conducted the meeting without voting privileges.

Recording Administrator Holly A. Netter, Town Clerk, RMC

Deputy Supervisor Harris called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 8:05 pm immediately following the public hearing on LL 13, Opt Out Cannabis

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

A moment of silence was observed in memory of the Honorable Town Justice, Peter Matera who passed away on November 25, 2021. The town is grateful for his service and friendship; he will be missed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

George Post reported an issue with the email links on the website. He said he emailed the Board and Town Clerk, and no one had received the communication from George.

STREETLIGHTS FOR THE BRIDGE

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN CHRIS FARRELL TO MOVE FORWARD ON GETTING THE NECESSARY QUOTES AND PURCHASE THE NECESSARY LIGHTING TO REPAIR/REPLACE DAMAGED STREETLIGHTS ON THE BRIDGE. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

2022 RESILIENCE WORK PLAN - Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE)

MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMAN CHRIS FARRELL TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR TO SIGN THE 2022 RESILIENCE WORK PLAN. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE. ALL MEMBERS WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE) has experts and will benefit the town. They will work with the Climate Smart task force Coordinator or designee to review and identify the NYS Climate Smart Communities Certification Actions as completed by the town or in process.

Recommended projects would also be identified through the review which would be accomplished through 4-6 online meetings. CCE would then meet with the Environmental board to prioritize future actions and timelines. It also puts the Town in better position for grants.

Sojourner Truth Update per Senator Hinchey and Assemblyman Cahill's Office

NYS STRETCH CODE - PROVIDING LOCAL LAW TO TOWN BOARD

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A PUBLIC HEARING

In the Matter of Local Law No. 14 of 2021, Entitled: A Local Law Amending Chapter 56 "Building Construction" of the Esopus Town Code.

WHEREAS, the Town of Esopus seeks to protect and promote the public health, safety, and welfare of its residents by mandating energy efficient building standards; and

WHEREAS, in order to prevent a statewide patchwork of more efficient energy codes, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) developed the NY Stretch Energy Code – 2020 (NY Stretch); and

WHEREAS, a stretch energy code is simply more stringent than the minimum base energy code that can be voluntarily adopted by local jurisdictions. NY Stretch is a model code that is 10 to 12% more efficient than the minimum requirements of the 2020 Energy Conservation Construction Code of New York State (2020 ECCCNY); and

WHEREAS, some New York State municipalities have adopted stricture energy standards to ensure reduced energy costs for residents and businesses; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to NY Energy Law § 11-109, the Town of Esopus is authorized to adopt a local energy code more stringent than the 2020 ECCCNY; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Esopus Town Board is considering amending Chapter 56 "Building Construction" to add provisions for a local energy code that is stricter than the existing requirements in the Esopus Town Code; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Esopus Town Board is declared Lead Agency for the purposes of environmental review with respect to the proposed resolution, in accordance with Article 8 of the Environmental Conservation Law of the State of New York, and the regulations promulgated thereunder at NYCRR 617 (collectively, “SEQRA”); and

WHEREAS, the Town Board, as Lead Agency, has advised that the proposed action meets the criteria of a “Type II Action” under SEQRA; and

WHEREAS, this Local Law has been introduced before the Board, to wit: Local Law 14 of 2021, entitled: “A Local Law Amending Chapter 56 Building Construction of the Code of the Town of Esopus;” the text of which is to follow:

**LOCAL LAW NO. 14 OF 2021 AMENDING CHAPTER 56 BUILDING
CONSTRUCTION, OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF ESOPUS”**

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus as follows:

Section 1. That Chapter 56, entitled “Building Construction” of the Code of the Town of Esopus, as amended, is further amended by adding the following:

56-1.A(1). Legislative Intent

The Town of Esopus seeks to protect and promote the public health, safety, and welfare of its residents by mandating energy efficient building standards. In 2019, the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA) developed and published the NYStretch Energy Code 2020 (hereinafter referred to as NYStretch), a more energy efficient building code than the 2020 ECCCNY. This proposed code amendment seeks to modify the Esopus Town Code to adopt NYStretch and to enact more restrictive regulations as they related to new or substantially renovated buildings.

56-1.A(2) Adoption of NYStretch Code

Effective January 1, 2022, the NYStretch Energy Code 2020, published by the NYSERDA (hereinafter referred to as “NYStretch”), shall be applicable to all new construction and substantial renovations in the Town of Esopus.

56-1.A(3). Authority

This local law is enacted pursuant to New York Energy Law §11-109(1), and Municipal Home Rule Law §10 and in accordance with the procedures detailed in Municipal Home Rule § 20.

Section 2. Severability

If any section or subdivision, paragraph, clause, phrase of this law shall be adjudged invalid or held unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, any judgment made thereby shall not affect the validity of this law as a whole or any part thereof other than the part or provision so adjudged to be invalid or unconstitutional.

Section 3. Filing Required.

This local law shall be filed with the state fire prevention and building code council within thirty days after its adoption.

Section 4. Effective Date

This local law shall take effect immediately upon filing with the Secretary of State pursuant to New York Energy Law §11-109(1) and the Municipal Home Rule Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, Ulster County, shall hold a Public Hearing in the matter of the adoption of the aforesaid Local Law, at which parties of interest and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard, to be held at the Town Hall, 1 Town Hall Way, Ulster Park, New York, on December 16, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., Prevailing Time, and that notice of said hearing shall be published in the official newspaper of general circulation in the Town of Esopus, by the Town Clerk, at least ten (10) days before such hearing and that notice shall be in the following form:

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TAKE NOTICE, that the Town Board of the Town of Esopus will hold a public hearing at the Town Hall, 1 Town Hall Way, Ulster Park, New York on December 16, 2021 at 7:00 p.m., on **Local Law No. 14** of the Year 2021, AMENDING CHAPTER 56 “BUILDING CONSTRUCTION,” OF THE CODE OF THE TOWN OF ESOPUS.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that all persons interested and citizens shall have an opportunity to be heard on said proposal at the time and place aforesaid.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE, that copies of the aforesaid proposed local law will be available for examination at the office of the Clerk of the Town of Esopus, at the Town Hall, 1 Town Hall Way, Ulster Park, New York between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. by appointment and online at the Town of Esopus Website: <https://www.esopus.com/> on all business days between the date of this notice and the date of the public hearing.

PLEASE TAKE FURTHER NOTICE THAT, the Public Hearing will be held with limited in-person attendance. Interested participants may instead join via Zoom or view our live stream on the Town of Esopus Facebook Page or the broadcast on Local Public Access Channel 23.

DATED: Ulster Park, New York
December 2, 2021

HOLLY A. NETTER, TOWN CLERK, RMC

The foregoing resolution was voted upon with all councilmen voting as follows:

COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON	AYE
COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE	AYE
COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK	AYE
COUNCILMAN CHRIS FARRELL	AYE
SUPERVISOR JARED GEUSS	ABESENT

ALL TOWN BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT VOTED IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

DATED: Ulster Park, New York
December 2, 2021

HOLLY A. NETTER, TOWN CLERK, RMC

SOJOURNER TRUTH UPDATE PER SENATOR HINCHEY AND ASSEMBLYMAN CAHILL'S OFFICE

Senator Hinchey and Assemblyman Cahill's office joined together to promote a bill to Establish November twenty-sixth of each year as a day of commemoration known as Sojourner Truth Day to honor and recognize her. The bill was inspired by the students of the YMCA Youth Crew of Kingston who led a local movement to honor Sojourner Truth and got the state officials to introduce the legislation.

Miscellaneous

- Road closure for tree lighting 9W closed between Salem Street and West Stout Street.
- Grant information is being gathered by the Supervisor's office and will be distributed to the Board when it is complete.

UPDATES

Holiday Tree Lighting - Parks & Recreation will be hosting a holiday tree lighting with Santa on December 4th, 4pm-6pm at the gazebo near MHVCU. All are invited to join in on the festivities which include caroling, cookies and hot chocolate. The rain date is scheduled for December 11th.

Noise Ordinance -New draft provided to Board for review Once satisfied the Board will have to reintroduce and start process again.

Water Treatment Plant Operator Open Position available – job description is available at www.esopus.com.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE AT 8:30 PM FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLY FILLING A PERSONNEL VACANCY. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN CHRIS FARRELL AT 9:03 PM TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

NO ACTION TAKEN.

ADJOURNMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMAN CHRIS FARRELL TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:04 PM. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR. MOTION CARRIED.

*Respectively submitted,
Holly A. Netter
Town Clerk, R.MC*