

10/17/24

**TOWN OF ESOPUS
TOWN BOARD MEETING
October 17, 2024, 7:00 PM**

A regularly scheduled Town Board Meeting was held in person on October 17, 2024, at 1 Town Hall Way, Ulster Park. The following persons in attendance:

**Councilman Laura Robinson
Councilman Evelyn Clarke
Councilman Kathie Quick
Councilman Jared Guess
Supervisor Danielle Freer**

Administrative Recorder: Holly A. Netter, Town Clerk, RMC

4 WAYS TO GIVE PUBLIC COMMENT:

- 1.) **In-Person – Attend the Workshop**
- 2.) **Phone in: Leave a voicemail on 845 331 0676 before the meeting**
- 3.) **EMAIL – lreynolds@esopus.com with the subject line “Public Comment”**
- 4.) **MAIL – mail written comments to:
*Town of Esopus, P.O. Box 700
Port Ewen, NY 12466***

Supervisor Danielle Freer called the meeting to order at 7 pm.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

PUBLIC COMMENT

Thomas Maynard of Maynard Farms said he had a conversation with the owner of the Yan property and was asked if Mr. Maynard would consider altering the days and times of their operation to lessen the noise on weekends. Mr. Maynard said he told them he would not and that he often needs to operate off hours and can do so because of his agricultural status. Mr. Maynard then read the following letter to the Board:

10/17/24

I am submitting this letter and appearing before you today to address concerns I have regarding the proposed development of the Yan Property at 38 Hudson Lane, Ulster Park, NY 12487. I previously expressed these concerns and others in a letter dated June 16, 2023 submitted to the Town Supervisor, Town Board Members and Town Planning Board Members, as well as in my public comment before the Town Planning Board at their September 2024 meeting.

The Yan Property borders an existing farm that is registered in an Agriculture District. The Yan Property borders Lochinvar and Maura, LLC, a subsidiary of Maynard Farms. Maynard Farms exists at 326 River Road, Ulster Park, NY 12487. Both are existing and operating farms within 500 feet of the Yan property.

Both Lochinvar and Maura, LLC and Maynard Farms are existing and active fruit and vegetable farms. The height of our growing season will coincide with the expected height of season for the cabin retreat/campground.

Under the NYS Right to Farm law, the farm has a right to exist and operate as needed. Such operations can and will cause dust, unpleasant smells, noise and use loud equipment.

External factors have made it so required farming operations must occur outside traditional working hours. It is not unusual for equipment to be running late into the night or as early as 3am. This equipment-tractors, sprayers, etc, are loud and reach 120 decibels.

In addition, we employ crop protection devices that run from dawn till dusk and also reach 120 decibels.

I am also concerned that Yan patrons will not respect property boundaries and will trespass onto this active farmland. If campground patrons enter this land, there is great potential for them to cause damage to crops and irrigation equipment and even to themselves.

Also, both pieces of land are used for hunting and target practice and at times, guns are used for necessary nuisance control.

Necessary farm operations do not align with the quiet sanctuary the owners claim to want to create at their cabin retreat and will cause disruption.

As such, I respectfully request that this project not be allowed to move forward. Should this project advance, it is with full notice of necessary allowable farm activities and the disturbances that they cause.

Chris Marta, Parsell St., suggested keeping the port-a-potty on site if the Sleightsburgh Spit is going to be open this winter.

10/17/24

Lorraine Karabec, Hudson Lane. She confirmed that she hears equipment noise from Maynard’s farm at her property, which is adjacent to the new proposed project on Hudson Lane. She said when she bought the property, she knew the farm existed. In the future, they do not favor the Yan project and the disruption it may bring to their neighborhood.

SUPERVISOR FREER MOVED TO CLOSE THE PUBLIC COMMENT. COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR, AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

2025 BUDGET DISCUSSION

SUPERVISOR FREER MOTIONED TO ADOPT THE TOWN OF ESOPUS PRELIMINARY 2025 BUDGET AS THE FINAL BUDGET. COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR, AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

ULSTER COUNTY 2024 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN RESOLUTION

**TOWN OF ESOPUS
ULSTER COUNTY, NY**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF ESOPUS
ADOPTING THE ULSTER COUNTY 2024 HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN OF MAY 10, 2024**

WHEREAS the Town of Esopus recognizes the threat that natural hazards pose to people and property within the Town of Esopus; and

WHEREAS the Town of Esopus has prepared a multi-hazard mitigation plan, hereby known as Ulster County 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan of May 10, 2024, in conjunction with Ulster County in accordance with the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000; and

WHEREAS Ulster County 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan of May 10, 2024, identifies mitigation goals and actions to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property in the Town of Esopus from the impacts of future hazards and disasters; and

WHEREAS adoption by the Town of Esopus demonstrates our commitment to hazard mitigation and achieving the goals outlined in the Ulster County 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan of May 10, 2024.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN OF ESOPUS IN ULSTER COUNTY, NEW YORK, THAT:

The Town of Esopus adopts the Ulster County 2024 Hazard Mitigation Plan of May 10, 2024. This plan, approved by the community, may be edited or amended after submission for review, but will not require the community to re-adopt any further iterations. This only applies to this specific plan and does not absolve the community from updating the plan in five years.

10/17/24

Resolution offered by: Supervisor Danielle Freer
Resolution seconded by: Councilman Kathie Quick

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 JARED GEUSS	AYE
SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER	AYE

Resolution duly adopted.

DATED: Ulster Park, NEW YORK
October 17, 2024
HOLLY A. NETTER, TOWN CLERK, RMC

AUTHORIZATION FOR SUPERVISOR TO SIGN TAX CERTIORARI LETTER OF AGREEMENT FOR 2025 WITH VAN DEWATER & VAN DEWATER, LLP

COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS MOTIONED TO AUTHORIZE SUPERVISOR FREER TO SIGN THE TAX CERTIORARI LETTER OF AGREEMENT WITH VAN DEWATER & VAN DEWATER, LLP. COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR, AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

MOTION: SET HALLOWEEN CURFEW AT 7 PM

COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS MOTIONED TO SET THE HALLOWEEN CURFEW AT 7 PM. COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR, AND THE MOTION WAS CARRIED.

LIAISON LIGHTNING ROUND

SUPERVISOR FREER:

Ulster County is continuing its emergency management training for elected officials. There are four sessions. Supervisor Freer attended the first session, said it was amazing, and encouraged anyone who could attend to join the upcoming sessions. Fire safety is the next session on October 22nd, and they will be putting out a fire.

10/17/24

On October 7th, all employees attended the annual workplace violence and sexual harassment training at Town Hall provided by NYMIR.

TOWN CLERK—The final collection day for water bills is Friday, 11/1. The second round of DMPs will be available on November 1st for hunters who wish to apply.

COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS:

The Water Department received NYS Department of Health approval for the Hasbrouck Loop and the 9W stretch of main work, which began last year. The next step is to invite bids for that work.

The Water Department submitted its water service line inventory and replacement plan to the State.

COUNCILMAN QUICK:

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS - A public hearing for a use variance will be on the agenda for the next meeting on October 22 regarding a property on Mirror Lake.

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE - Shannon Harris will speak to seniors at the November 18th Senior meeting about exemptions they may be eligible for.

ESOPUS SENIORS - The seniors will have one more trip this year on October 22 for an Oktoberfest at the Riverview Inn in Matamoras, PA. Meet Tthe Candidates will be held on October 21st at 1:00 pm.

COUNCILMAN CLARKE:

EDC discussed streamlining the Planning Board process.

ENVIRONMENTAL BOARD is working on an ecological grant for native pollinator gardens, partnering with the library.

COUNCILMAN ROBINSON:

PARKS & REC will hold a Trunk or Treat at Town Hall on October 26, 2024. On November 2, Esopus Methodist Church will have a Roast Beef sit-down dinner from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.

BUDGET ADJUSTMENTS OCTOBER 2024

Be It Resolved by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, County of Ulster, as follows:

Whereas, the Town of Esopus has been presented with budget adjustments, which the town board has examined and approved.

Therefore, Be It Resolved that the following budget adjustments be approved for payment:

AO.0599.000 Fund Balance to A0.1355.401 \$2,400
Daniel Baker

OFFERED BY: SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER
SECONDED BY: COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS

COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON	AYE
COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE	AYE
COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK	AYE
COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS	AYE
SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER	AYE

Resolution duly adopted.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS OCTOBER 2024

BE IT RESOLVED by the Town Board of the Town of Esopus, County of Ulster, as follows:

WHEREAS the Town of Esopus has been presented with vouchers for payment, and these vouchers have been examined and approved by the Town Board,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the following vouchers be approved for payment:

GENERAL FUND	241900-241937	\$ 47,119.20
HIGHWAY FUND	242206-242245	\$199,156.37
STREETLIGHTS		
PORT EWEN SEWER FUND	243141-243158	\$ 18,688.56
PORT EWEN WATER	244157-244175	\$31,227.78
Capital Water		
ARPA	247016	\$979.90
ESCROW		
Total		\$297,171.81

10/17/24

OFFERED BY: SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER
SECONDED BY: COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON

COUNCILMAN LAURA ROBINSON	AYE
COUNCILMAN EVELYN CLARKE	AYE
COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK	AYE
COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS	AYE
SUPERVISOR DANIELLE FREER	AYE

Resolution duly adopted.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

SUPERVISOR FREER MOVED TO ENTER INTO AN EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 7:25 PM TO DISCUSS PENDING LITIGATION. COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR, AND THE MOTION CARRIED.

SUPERVISOR FREER MOVED TO LEAVE THE EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 8:20 PM. COUNCILMAN KATHIE QUICK SECONDED THE MOTION. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT IN FAVOR, MOTION CARRIED.

ACTION - NONE

KEY UPCOMING DATES

10.26 Trunk or Treat hosted by Parks & Rec

11.1 Final Day for Water Bill Collection

11.5 Town Hall Closed: Election Day

11.7 Next Town Board Workshop

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AND SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES (FACEBOOK & INSTAGRAM) FOR MORE INFORMATION.

ADJOURNMENT

SUPERVISOR FREER MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:21 PM, WHICH WAS SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN JARED GEUSS. ALL MEMBERS PRESENT WERE IN FAVOR OF THE MOTION, WHICH CARRIED.

Respectively Submitted,

Holly A. Netter

Town Clerk, RMC