

APRIL 21, 2017

Steuben Planning Board to Hold Public Hearing

The Steuben planning board will hold a public hearing on the Steuben draft comprehensive plan. The hearing will take place at 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, May 9th at the Steuben town hall. The comprehensive plan identifies goals, objectives and policies for the immediate and long range protection, enhancement and development of the town. Copies of the draft comprehensive plan are available for review at the office of the town clerk and online at www.town.steuben.ny.us

The town hall is located at 9458 Soule Rd. After this public hearing is held, the plan will go to the Oneida County Department of Planning for review and then on to the Steuben town board for adoption.

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Training for Planning Board and ZBA Members Set for May 11th

The town of Boylston is hosting training for planning board and ZBA members. The training session will be held on Thursday May 11th from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Boylston town hall, 580 County Route 13, Boylston. The Tug Hill Commission's Director of Planning, Phil Street will be conducting the training focusing on subdivision review, with an emphasis on SEQR and ZBA appeals. Contact CTHC Circuit Rider Angie Kimball at [ange-la@tughill.org](mailto:angel@tughill.org) or 599-8825 (home) or 480-6857 (cell) with any questions and to register for the class. If approved by your town or village board, this class would provide two hours of training towards your annual training requirements.

Wind Power Planning & Zoning Considerations Workshop

April 24, 6:30 - 8:30p.m. at Jefferson Community College, Watertown

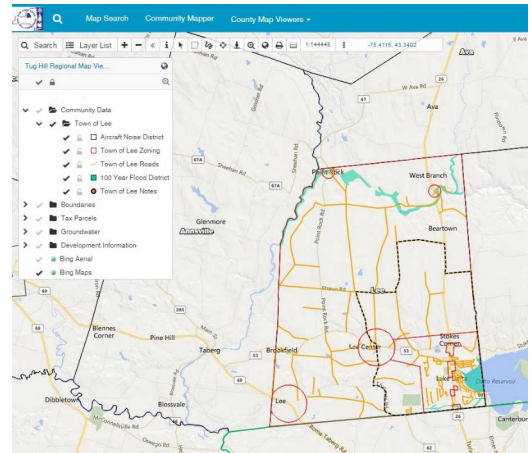
This presentation will briefly review the technical aspects and recommendations for zoning of utility scale (wind turbine farm) and private (residential/small commercial) wind energy conversion systems (WECS). There will be discussion of changes in the wind power industry and drivers for development since the early 2000's. Emphasis will be placed on how these changes can be addressed or reflected in necessary updates to WECS zoning and local laws.

RSVP's are strongly encouraged. Please register online at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wind-power-planning-zoning-considerations-registration-33116774163>, or call Jefferson County Planning Department at (315) 785-3144 or Email: planning@co.jefferson.ny.us.

For a map of the college, driving directions, or parking locations: <http://www.sunyjefferson.edu/about-jcc/campus-map>

GIS Getting Started in Town of Lee

The town of Lee recently had Tug Hill Commission staff demo the use of a mobile data collecting solution, utilizing GPS and a tablet. This was the first step in the process of implementation, after the commission worked with the town of Lee on putting together a GIS needs assessment. Their setup will be utilizing a mobile app that will allow them to collect and update their own data. That data will be stored on the Tug Hill Commission's online database. The town of Lee data that gets put into the online database, will then feed into the Tug Hill Commission's online map viewer portal. The map viewer portal has the ability to share data publicly and privately online. The Town of Lee will also utilize a free open source GIS desktop application called QGIS, which has been gaining in popularity throughout the world. QGIS has the ability to provide communities with access to the online database, which provides them another avenue, other than the mobile app, to create and update their own data. The only cost to the communities within the Tug Hill Region, is if they want to purchase the GPS receiver. The Tug Hill Commission does have one that they can lend out for free, if a community is interested in getting started. For more information you can contact Mickey Dietrich, NYS Tug Hill Commission at (315) 785-2380 or email him at mickey@tughill.org.



Around Tug Hill

At a recent meeting at the Albion municipal building, staff noticed a new addition in front of the building – a Little Free Library. Great idea Albion!

MVREDC to Hold Meeting & CFA Workshop

The Mohawk Valley Regional Economic Development Council (MVREDC) will meet on Tuesday, May 9 at 10:30 a.m. at Herkimer County Community College in the Robert McLaughlin College Center Alumni Hall located at 100 Reservoir Rd. in Herkimer.

A CFA (Consolidated Funding Application) workshop will be held at 1:00 p.m. in the Robert McLaughlin College Center Rooms 282, 283 and 295.

For questions or to RSVP call 315-793-2366.

For directions to campus visit <http://www.herkimer.edu/explore/visit-herkimer-college/directions/>. For a map of campus visit <http://www.herkimer.edu/explore/visit-herkimer-college/campus-map/>.

NYS ShareGIS Program

Frank Winters from the NYS GIS Program Office recently presented at the Local Government Conference that was held at Jefferson Community College in March. Frank presented on the NYS ShareGIS Program and what services the state currently is providing to local governments. One such service is the free online hosting of parcel data for counties to the public. Since his presentation, Lewis County has now participated in it, by sharing their parcel data with the state. They are one of 19 counties that have shared their tax parcel data through the program, including the NYC area. The state is continuing to expand services to help out local governments. More capabilities are being added, which will provide more data hosting capabilities for local governments. Stay tuned, as the ShareGIS program continues to evolve, which will benefit all local governments across the state.



West Carthage Village Court to Dissolve

Beginning December 5th 2017, the town of Champion will provide the village of West Carthage with court service through its "Justice Court." Following a series of public discussion/s and meeting/s over the past few years, members of the village of West Carthage board unanimously agreed to dissolve the village court at the April 10th board meeting as a cost saving measure while eliminating redundancies in service.

Based upon information provided by the village of West Carthage board at a 2015 public information session, the village court has been operating at a loss since 2011 and is subsidized through local taxes to maintain operations. In addition, the town court is located within a close proximity and equipped to handle the increase in court cases.

According to Scott Burto, village Mayor, the town has ensured the village that local laws and codes will continue to be enforced through the court.

Connecting Trails

The New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (NYS OPRHP) and the city of Watertown has been awarded \$760,000 through the Federal Highway Administration Grant Program to interconnect existing trails on the city of Watertown's east side to the Black River Pedestrian/Bicycle Trail. Using a multi-phased approach to link existing trails, the city of Watertown will construct 800-feet of trail from Ridge Road, traversing under Eastern Boulevard Bridge to Waterworks Park.

Upon completion, the \$950,000 construction project will provide trail users with over 5-miles of contiguous hiking/biking trails and a 30-space vehicular parking lot at Waterworks Park. According to Michael A. Lumbis, the City's Planning and Community Development Director, "it's a major accomplishment to complete that section of the trail system."

Funding is administered by New York State Department of Transportation on an 80/20 basis and leverages limited local resources to expand the use of non-vehicular transportation to reduce vehicle emissions and/or traffic congestion to improve roadway safety while increasing access to healthy transportation alternatives.

Carthage /West Carthage Water Pollution Control Facility

Assisted by the Development Authority of the North Country (DANC) and GHD Consulting Service, the Carthage and West Carthage Water Pollution Control Facility Management Board recently awarded contracts to qualified low-bidders interested in providing construction upgrades and improvements to the aging facility. With bond agreements and IMA in place, the \$11.8 million capital project is expected to be completed by fall of 2019.

Local Roads Done Right Workshop

Cornell Local Roads Program will hold Local Roads Done Right on May 18 from 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Jefferson County Cornell Cooperative Extension office, 203 N. Hamilton St., Watertown.

The intended audience for this workshop is town, county, city and village officials, foremen, construction supervisors, and others learning about what makes a good road or street. Discussion topics will include the components of a good street, drainage, investigating and fixing highway problems, pavement management, maintenance and preservation.

Cost is \$50. Sign-in starts at 8 am. Registration information is available at <https://cornellapp.box.com/v/reg-ws-spring>.

For more information call 607-255-8033 or email clrp@cornell.edu.

Contact Us

NYS Tug Hill Commission
317 Washington Street
Watertown, NY 13601

Phone: 315-785-2380
Toll Free within the region:
1-888-785-2380
Email: tughill@tughill.org

Visit us at:

Web: www.tughill.org
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If you would like to receive our newsletter electronically please email your request to gwen@tughill.org or call 1-888-785-2380.

Electronic versions appear in full color!

Smart Management for Small Communities: Practical Resources for Governance Conference

April 25-27, 2017 at Minnowbrook Conference Center, Blue Mountain Lake, NY

The purpose of this conference is to provide rural leaders in NYS the opportunity to develop leadership skills and discuss local governance needs, all while networking with technical assistance providers and state and federal funding agency representatives. Supervisors and mayors, council/board members, town clerks and managers, DPW staff, town planners, engineers, and other interested community leaders are invited to attend.

For detailed information and to register: <http://efc.syr.edu/2017-smart-management-for-small-communities-conference/>