

DECEMBER 2, 2016

LGC Registration Open!

Registration is now open for the 2017 Tug Hill Commission Local Government Conference, to be held on Thursday, March 30, 2017 at Jefferson Community College. This is almost a month earlier than normal, in an effort to give communities more time to receive the early registration fee of \$50 if registered by March 15, 2017. Between March 16th and 26th, registration will cost \$100.

Four sets concurrent sessions will be held throughout the day, with seven workshop options during each session. A full set of course descriptions is being mailed to Tug Hill communities and previous attendees, and should be in your mailbox early next week. The descriptions are also on the conference website at www.tughill.org/LGC2017.

We are offering two easy ways to register this year:

1. **Online:** Many attendees and exhibitors have asked about paying with credit cards—this year we are offering that option through our Eventbrite website at <https://lgc2017.eventbrite.com>.
2. **Mail:** For those that wish to pay with a check or voucher, please go to www.tughill.org/lgc2017, complete and print the registration form, which is a fillable pdf, and mail to the office with your payment. Alternatively, the blank form can be printed and filled in by hand.

Please contact the commission office with any questions, at (888) 785-2380 toll-free in the region, or your circuit rider. We look forward to seeing you there!

Consolidated Funding Application Grant Announcement Soon

For Tug Hill towns and villages who have applied for projects under the 2016 round of Consolidated Funding Application grants and financing, you may have received an e-mail that the awards are scheduled to be announced on Thursday, December 8, 2016. Further details about the Consolidated Funding Application process and additional news about the announcement can be found between now and then on the Regional Economic Development Councils' web site, <https://regionalcouncils.ny.gov/>.

And, a reminder: the winter months are a good time to start thinking about what projects you might want to start getting ready for in the next round of Consolidated Funding Application funding in 2017. In recent years, the program has opened for applications in May, closing in July, so now through April is your opportunity to be prepared.

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Tug Hill Commission Meeting Scheduled

The next Tug Hill Commission meeting will be held December 12 at 10:00 a.m. at the commission office located at 317 Washington St, Watertown.



Department
of State

DOS LOCAL GOVERNMENT WEBINARS

WHEN

December 2016
January 2017

WHERE

Attend from wherever you are - You only need a computer with speakers or a mobile device

COURSES

Solar Energy Regulations · **The Challenges of Local Government Reorganization** · **Hot Button Issues** · **Planning Board Overview** · **Zoning Board of Appeals Overview**

WHO

Planning Board Members · **Zoning Board of Appeals Members** · **Governing Board Members** · **Planning Staff** · **Code Enforcement Officers** · **Other Local Officials**

MORE TRAINING INFORMATION

<http://www.dos.ny.gov/lg/lut/index.html>

TO REGISTER:

Go to our website for registration information

Once registered and approved, you will receive a confirmation email with instructions for joining each session.

DECEMBER 12, 2016

Solar Energy Regulations
6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

DECEMBER 19, 2016

The Challenges of Local Government Reorganization
2:00 PM – 4:00 PM

DECEMBER 29, 2016

Hot Button Issues
6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

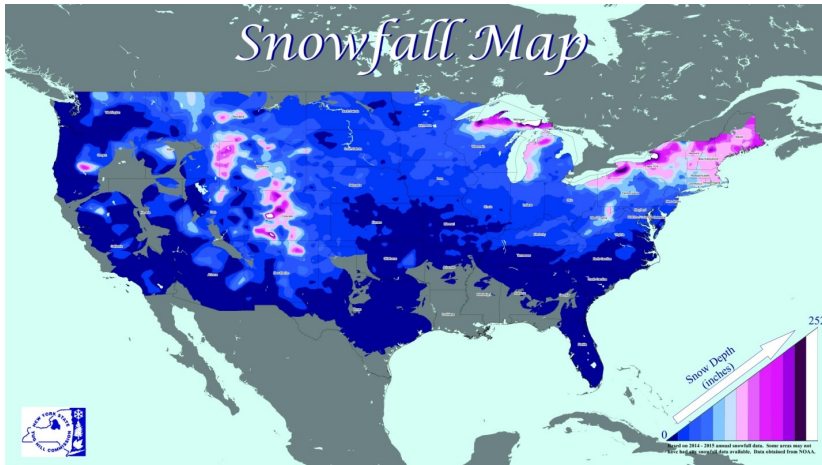
JANUARY 5, 2017

Planning Board Overview
6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

JANUARY 10, 2017

Zoning Board of Appeals Overview
6:00 PM – 8:30 PM

New Tug Hill Snowfall Map



The Tug Hill region has the heaviest snowfall east of the Rockies, and the new map generated by commission staff here illustrates this. Snowfall data used to create this map was obtained from NOAA and covers the 2014 to 2015 winter season. That winter season, some areas of the Tug Hill region received as much as 230 inches of snow. That is a little over 19 feet! A full size version of this map is available on the commission's website at www.tughill.org/tug-hill-region/.

We hope you have a safe winter season and enjoy the snow!

Did You Know...Executive Sessions

During regular meetings of municipal governing boards, it is sometimes suggested that a discussion be held privately, or in "executive session". The law does provide for these closed sessions under certain circumstances, if proper procedure is followed.

An executive session is not separate from an open meeting but rather is a portion of an open meeting during which the public may be excluded. In order to do so, a motion must be made during an open meeting to enter into executive session, the motion must identify the general area or areas of the subject or subjects to be considered; and the motion must be carried by a majority vote of the total membership of a public body.

Article 7 of the Public Officers Law outlines the topics for which a board may enter executive session:

- matters which will imperil the public safety if disclosed;
- any matter which may disclose the identity of a law enforcement agent or informer;
- information relating to current or future investigation or prosecution of a criminal offense which would imperil effective law enforcement if disclosed;
- discussions regarding proposed, pending or current litigation;
- collective negotiations pursuant to article fourteen of the civil service law;
- the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation;
- the preparation, grading or administration of examinations; and
- the proposed acquisition, sale or lease of real property or the proposed acquisition of securities, or sale or exchange of securities held by such public body, but only when publicity would substantially affect the value thereof.

Following executive session, the board then needs to approve a motion to return to regular session. Additional information and resources about Open Meetings Law and Freedom of Information Law can be found at www.dos.ny.gov/coog/index.html.

Sharing the Tug Hill Circuit Rider Experience

The Adirondack North Country Association (ANCA) recently conducted a training session on Working Effectively with Municipalities for their Energy Circuit Rider program. They called on the Tug Hill Commission to participate as part of their program, and Paul Baxter, circuit rider for the North Shore Council of Governments and the Salmon Rivers Council of Governments, shared the Commission's experience with towns and villages.

The discussion, which lasted over an hour, included the technical aspects of towns and villages, the nuts-and-bolts of matters like the budget process, and the human aspects of working with local officials, including the importance of listening in order to best match community needs to potential resources.

Town Clerk Sign Board Required

Did you know that under Section 30 of New York State Town Law, among the powers and duties of the town clerk is to "procure and affix on or near the main entrance to his office a sign-board with the name of the town followed by the words 'town clerk's office' in plain characters thereon with sufficient space immediately below for posting thereon the legal notices of the town"?

This sign board is counted as one of the public places upon which any legal notice may be posted.

There is no parallel requirement in the comparable section of New York State Village Law Article 4, Section 4-402, which pertains to the powers and duties of a village clerk.

Contact Us

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Web: www.tughill.org

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/TugHillCommission

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!



Town of Boylston's
"Community Bulletin Board"
and "Town Clerks Official
Bulletin Board"

