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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

October 8, 2020

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Upcoming Planning and Zoning Board Training Sessions October 27 and 29

The Tug Hill Commission is hosting two training sessions for planning and zoning board members, to help them meet their annual four hour training requirement.

Attorneys Jim Burrows and Dave Geurtsen from Conboy, McKay, Bachman and Kendall, LLP will be presenting ***“Renewable Energy and Land Use”*** on Tuesday, October 27 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Town of Watertown Municipal Building, 22867 County Route 67, Watertown, NY 13601. The presentation will provide a comprehensive overview of the regulatory environment regarding renewable energy projects. Ranging from local zoning laws to Article 10 to the new Office of Renewable Energy Siting proposed regulations, the session will explore the role of local government in regulating land use. Register at us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_BsUpbOQuQQmUhfGyyO7sUw or www.tughill.org.

Commission planning director Matt Johnson and planner Alaina Mallette will deliver a training session entitled ***“Planning Board Basics”*** on Thursday, October 29 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Florence Town Hall, 11897 Thompson Corners-Florence Rd., Camden, NY 13316. This presentation will cover the basic ins and outs of how planning boards function in NYS. Topics include who can serve on planning boards and what is required of planning board members. We will explore several approaches for land use planning, including comprehensive plans and zoning laws and touch on subdivision review, site plan review, and special use permits. We will discuss best practices for running meetings and public hearings in the context of NYS Open Meetings Law. A brief discussion of SEQR and county planning review will also be included. Register at us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_JJABwIBtRwaAMF0VAnrKbQ or www.tughill.org.

In-person attendance for both sessions will be limited to the first 23 registrants, and all attendees will be required to socially distance, wear a mask, and answer questions about health and travel. Hand sanitizer will be available, and no walk-ins will be allowed. The training session will also be viewable live via Zoom. When registering, please pay special attention to the question regarding how you plan to attend.

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The New York State Tug Hill Commission is a non-regulatory state agency charged with helping local governments, organizations, and citizens shape the future of the region, especially its environment and economy. The commission uses a grassroots approach to build local capacity and provide technical assistance in land use planning, community development, and natural resource management.

Helping local governments and citizens shape the future of the Tug Hill region.