

October 21, 2022

2022 Commission Annual Meeting

Around 90 people, including commission board members, staff, alumni, state representatives and local government and councils of government officials, joined together on October 20 for the Tug Hill Commission's annual dinner. The event was held at Zero Dock Street on the banks of the Black River in Carthage, with entertainment provided by Cincinnati Creek.

Chairman Jan Bogdanowicz opened the meeting with reflections on the beginnings of the Tug Hill Commission in 1972 and announced 2023 as a year of celebration when the commission enters its 50th year of service to the Tug Hill region. Executive Director Katie Malinowski reviewed accomplishments over the past year and awarded the 2022 Tug Hill Community Recognition Awards to the villages of Carthage, Copenhagen, and Deferiet. The three villages, working in close partnership with BOCES, improved their communities with board walks, benches, picnic tables and more to encourage residents and visitors to walk and enjoy everything these villages have to offer. Carthage President Wayne McIlroy was also recognized for his decades of service to the River Area Council of Governments and the village of Carthage, as he retires at the end of this year.

The evening was rounded out with a presentation by Jason Wagner, Natural Resources Chief at Fort Drum. The theme of Jason's presentation was managing change, and he related many of the activities and challenges being addressed by Fort Drum to the larger North Country and Tug Hill community. Garrison Commander Colonel James Zacchino and Andrew Kennedy, Director of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, also joined for the evening to represent Fort Drum.

Thank you to everyone who attended and thank you to all the partners who make our work at the Tug Hill Commission effective and successful! Photos from the evening can be seen on the commission's Flickr album [here](#).

In This Issue

- Commission Annual Dinner
- Senior Planner/Planner Position
- Fish Creek Working Group
- Correction
- Free Speech Webinar
- Budgeting and Accounting Training
- Town Budget Process Technical Paper
- Understanding and Managing Floodplains Webinar



From left to right: Mickey Dietrich, RACOG Circuit Rider; Leo Paige, BOCES; Brian Taube, BOCES; Wayne McIlroy, Carthage President; Jeff Ginger, BOCES; Janet Zando, Deferiet Mayor; Chuck Meyer, BOCES; Mark Souva, Copenhagen Mayor; Katie Malinowski, Tug Hill Commission Executive Director.



Commission Chairman Jan Bogdanowicz makes opening remarks to the audience at Zero Dock Street.

Commission Senior Planner/Planner Position Announcement

The NYS Tug Hill Commission is hiring either an experienced **Senior Planner** or an entry level **Planner** to assist local governments in the rural Tug Hill region in land use planning, local law development and revision, and general technical support to planning boards and other municipal boards. For the detailed job announcement, see tughill.org/job-openings/.

Interested applicants should submit a resume and cover letter to Matt Johnson, matt@tughill.org. Application materials are being reviewed on a rolling basis.

Fish Creek Working Group Meeting Held October 6

Approximately 35 people attended the October 6, 2022 meeting of the Fish Creek Working Group, held at Tavern 230 in Turin. The group was formed in the mid-1990s in response to the sale of the Lyons Falls Pulp and Paper lands in southern Lewis County. After attendee introductions, updates were heard from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, LandVest, and the Tug Hill Commission.

Michael Giocondo from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation, Jack Santamour from LandVest, and Katie Malinowski from the Tug Hill Commission provided group updates. There was also a question and answer period, and a time for informal discussion after the meeting. The entire 2022 Fish Creek Update is available to read [here](#).



Supervising Forester Michael Giocondo provides an update from the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation.



Jack Santamour from LandVest introduces the new owner and property manager to the East Branch of Fish Creek Working Group.

Correction

In the October 7 edition of Tug Hill Times, Natalie Bogdanowicz was incorrectly referred to as the Tug Hill Tomorrow Land Trust Board President. She is the land trust's board vice chair. Bob Keller is the current board chair and has served in that role for many years. Thank you to both Bob and Natalie for their commitment to Tug Hill.

Free Speech Webinar a Success

On Tuesday October 19, the Tug Hill Commission hosted a webinar titled **Regulating Private Speech: Sign Regulations and the First Amendment**. The event garnered 83 attendees and many questions. The speaker was Mark Cuthbertson, an attorney who focuses his practice in commercial real estate, land use, municipal litigation, and the representation of municipalities and not-for-profit cemeteries.

The webinar can be watched on the Tug Hill Commission [YouTube Channel](#).

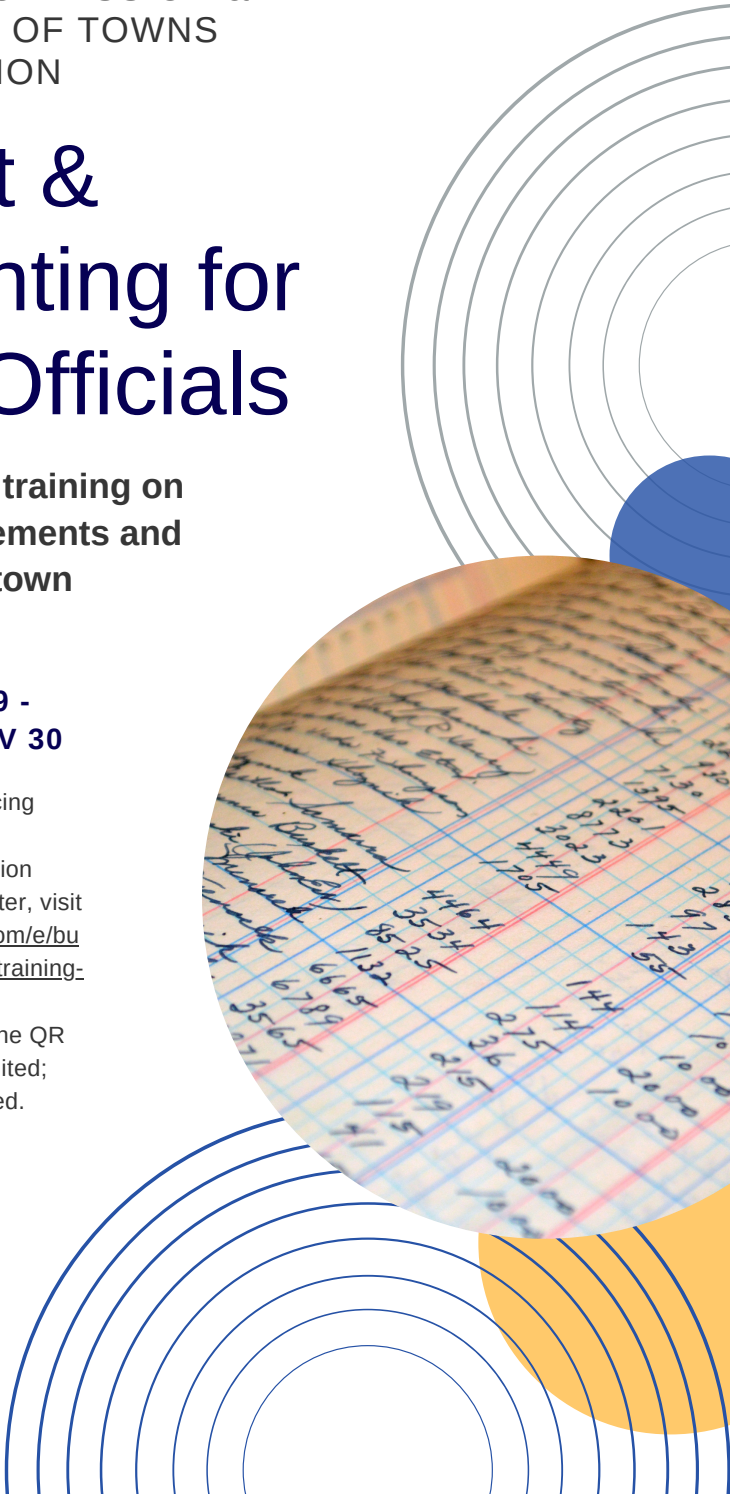
A TUG HILL COMMISSION &
ASSOCIATION OF TOWNS
COLLABORATION

Budget & Accounting for Town Officials

comprehensive training on
financial requirements and
regulations for town
governments

**TUESDAY NOV 29 -
WEDNESDAY NOV 30**

Partial and full-event pricing
available (\$75/\$125).
For full agenda and session
descriptions and to register, visit
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/budgeting-and-accounting-training-for-small-towns-tickets-432721570867> or scan the QR
code below. Space is limited;
pre-registration is required.



Town Budget Process Overview Technical Paper Reminder

It is that time of year again, and the town budget process in New York State can be confusing for both new town board members and seasoned officials. A good reference is the Tug Hill Commission's [Town Budget Process Overview](#) paper, which provides a timeline of when towns should be undertaking certain elements of the budgeting process, and the many references to state law that identify portions thereof.

TECHNICAL PAPER SERIES

Town Budget Process Overview
August 2021



NEW YORK STATE TUG HILL COMMISSION

DULLES STATE OFFICE BUILDING - 317 WASHINGTON STREET - WATERTOWN, NY 13601 - (315) 785-2380 - WWW.TUGHILL.ORG

The Tug Hill Commission Technical and Issue Paper Series are designed to help local officials and citizens in the Tug Hill region and other rural parts of New York State. The Technical Paper Series provides guidance on procedures based on questions frequently received by the Commission. The Issue Paper Series provides background on key issues facing the region without taking advocacy positions. Other papers in each series are available from the Tug Hill Commission. Please call us or visit our website for more information.



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

Facebook:
[www.facebook.com/
TugHillCommission](https://www.facebook.com/TugHillCommission)

To request our newsletter electronically please email gwen@tughill.org or call

1-888-785-2380.

For upcoming trainings, grant deadlines, and meetings, view our [calendar](#).

Upcoming Understanding and Managing Floodplains Workshops

With partners, NY Sea Grant is planning the *Understanding and Managing Floodplains for Healthy Watersheds and Resilient Communities* local government training workshops. To reach communities in New York's Great Lakes Basin, **the same workshop is being held at three venues**. This workshop is geared towards planning, zoning and municipal boards, supervisors, mayors, code enforcement officers, conservation advisory boards, and floodplain managers.

If approved by your municipality, the workshop fulfills state law required training for local planning officials. A certificate of participation may be requested for the number of hours of attendance. AICP CM Credits are pending. Click on your chosen date and location below to register:

1. [Lake Erie/Western New York](#), November 2, 2022, 9:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m., Clarion Hotel; 30 Lake Shore Dr E, Dunkirk, NY 14048
Registration fee: \$30
2. [Western Lake Ontario](#), (part of the Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council's Fall Conference), November 3, 2022, 9:00 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. del Lago Resort & Casino, 1133 New York 414, Waterloo, NY 13165
Registration fee: \$81.55 incl. \$6.55 Fee
3. [Eastern Lake Ontario](#), November 9, 2022, 9:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m. (DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS 10/29/2022), Tailwater Lodge, 52 Pulaski St, Altmar, 13302
Registration fee: \$30

Links to all registration pages are hosted at the [workshop webpage](#), which will be updated with agendas and other workshop materials as they become available.

Planning Team: Central NY Regional Planning & Development Board, Chautauqua Watershed Conservancy, Finger Lakes Lake Ontario Watershed Protection Alliance, Genesee/Finger Lakes Regional Planning Council, Lake Erie Watershed Protection Alliance, NY Sea Grant, NY State Department of Environmental Conservation, NY Department of State, Southern Tier West Regional Planning, & Tug Hill Commission.