



LEILANI CRAFTS ULRICH
Chairwoman

TERRY MARTINO
Executive Director

Draft Minutes
LGS Committee
April 2015 Agency Meeting

**MINUTES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
April 17, 2015**

The Committee meeting convened at approximately 9:45 a.m.

Local Government Services Committee Members Present:

Committee members in attendance included William Thomas, and Designee Lynne Mahoney, (substituting for Dierdre Scozzafava) Department of State, and Designee Robert Stegemann, Department of Environmental Conservation, and Presiding Committee Chair Lani Ulrich. Committee Chair Wilt was absent.

Other Members and Designees Present:

Members Karen Feldman, Arthur Lussi, Sherman Craig, Richard Booth and Designee Bradley Austin, Department of Economic Development .

Local Government Review Board:

Fred Monroe, Executive Director.

Agency Staff Present:

Executive Director Terry Martino, Counsel James Townsend, Deputy Director Planning Kathy Regan, and Environmental Programs Specialist 1, Robyn Burgess.

Town of Queensbury Approved Local Land Use Program Amendment (R. Burgess)

This item was for action. The Town of Queensbury has proposed an amendment to its zoning law to allow "water extraction" as an allowable land use in the Town's Land Conservation Districts.

Ms. Burgess noted that the Town adopted their program in 1982 and have had amendments to that law since then. In 2009 the zoning law underwent a complete repeal and replacement that was approved by the Agency. Since that time the Town and Agency have approved several amendments to the law.

The intent of this amendment is to define “water extraction” in the Town code, as there is currently a project proposal before the Town for such a use. The proposed amendment includes associated review standards for the new use.

Ms. Burgess reviewed the proposed language and conditions for projects involving water extraction. She noted the necessary SEQR documents have been filed and the Town is the lead agency for the proposal.

Executive Director Martino noted that a letter in support of the proposal was received from the Local Government Review Board.

Member Booth asked what the magnitude of extraction might be. Ms. Burgess responded there has been an historic use but it was unclear what the magnitude would be, however any proposal would also need approval from NYS DEC.

Member Craig noted that the definition makes sense to be added and asked whether other towns have this definition or is this unique to the Town of Queensbury. Ms. Burgess responded the Town of Westport has a similar definition. Local Government Review Board Executive Director Fred Monroe added that Chester also has the use defined in its code. Mr. Monroe noted that an independent analysis to reflect usage has been done and will likely be shared with DEC.

Designee Stegemann noted DEC regulations require permits to withdraw water so a town would also have to go through a DEC permitting process therefore noting such requirements within a local program is beneficial for all involved parties.

Agency Chair Ulrich noted the Agency would like to have feedback on how things are going in terms of recharge rates, etc.

Designee Stegemann moved the item with the inclusion of a whereas clause noting that the Town is also receiving permit from DEC that recognizes similar issues and should be considered. Designee Scozzafava seconded the item. All were in favor of moving the item with the stated language by Designee Stegemann to the full board for approval.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:15.